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Miss Grace Denbeigh-Russell and Mr. Vincent W. Lawson, two leading members of the "Jelf's" company, are severing their connection with Messrs. Leighton and Yorke owing to unusual and unforeseen circumstances.

Mr. Henry Martin, of Northampton, who died on April 6, leaving estate of the gross value of £129,094 11s. 11d., with net personalty £52,086 16s. 5d., was formerly a Mayor of Northampton, the "Father of the Town Council," and a friend of the late Sir Henry Irving, who once, when the Mayor and Mayoress were visiting London, showed them special cordiality. This attention, some years later, Mr. Martin was able to repay. His workmen had been repairing Abingdon Abbey, in the gardens of which stands a mulberry tree bearing an inscription to the effect that it was planted by David Garrick. It was supposed to have been produced from a slip of the tree in Shakespeare's garden at Stratford-on-Avon. During a heavy storm a branch was blown off, and Mr. Martin had a walking-stick made from it, and beautifully polished and mounted with engraved silver plate. When Sir Henry visited Northampton Mr. Martin arranged a mayoral reception, and the stick was presented to him. It was one of his treasured relics. Mr. Martin was a carpenter's boy at Northampton, and by degrees he built up one of the largest and most successful contractor's businesses in the country.

An inquest was held at Camberwell on Tuesday on the body of William Henry Harman, an actor, who died suddenly at his home, Maud-street, Camberwell, on Monday. His widow said that since he had a "seizure" two years ago her husband had suffered from pains in his head. On Monday afternoon he returned home from his agents complaining of pains, and, after dinner, he went to bed and she sat on the edge of the bed, reading to him. While she was reading she suddenly heard a gurgling sound and looked round, to see his face painfully contorted. Death followed within a few moments. Dr. Horton said death was due to a heavy meal embarrassing a fatty heart, and the jury returned a verdict of "Natural death."

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS).

ABBREVIATIONS: In order to effect a saving in space the following abbreviations are used in these columns: P. (Proprietor); P. & M. (Proprietor and Manager); M. D. (Managing Director); L. & M. (Lessee and Manager); M. (Manager); G. M. (General Manager); A. M. (Acting Manager); Asst. M. (Assistant Manager); R. M. (Resident Manager); B. M. (Business Manager); T. M. (Touring Manager); Mus. D. (Musical Director); Mus. C. (Musical Conductor); S. (Secretary); S. & T. (Secretary and Treasurer).

ABERAVON—PORT TALBOT.

GRAND THEATRE.—P. & M., Mr. David Jones. This week: The Pal Moore Trio, dancers; George Caselli, vocalist and dancer; Roland and Mack acrobats; and pictures.

VINT'S PALACE.—P., Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; M. Mr. Wm. Mitchell.—This week: Brinn, in "Pastimes on a Battleship"; Fred Butt, comedian; the Mozarts, in musical speciality; and pictures.

TAIRACH PALACE.—P., W. Davies and Co.; M., Mr. W. Daviss.—This week, Knoto, cat impersonator, assisted by Miss Lillie; and pictures.

ABERDEEN.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—P., The Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; A. M., Mr. H. Adair Nelson; Mus. D., Mr. A. W. Loseby.—This week (once nightly): George Edwardes' company in "The Dancing Mistress." The company includes: Mr. Edward D'Arcy, Mr. Harold E. Pearce, Mr. Reginald Hunter, Mr. Robert Challis, Mr. Guy Le Feuvre, Mr. David Miller, Mr. Hugh Larkin, Mr. Harry Winton, Mr. W. Louis Bradfield, Miss Luna Love, Miss Rita Presano, Miss Daphne Glenne, Miss Ada Palmer, Miss Mabel Munroe, Miss Maud Andrew, Miss Nita Bovet, Miss Nellie Hunt, Miss Marjorie Hume, Miss Edith Hart, Miss Gladys Bebbington, Miss Maxine Daniell, Miss Margot Tomlins, Miss Valerie Richards, and Miss Dora Fraser. Matinée, Saturday, 2.15. Next week: "Proud Maisie."

PALACE.—L., Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; A. M., Mr. F. Lawson Clark.—This week (twice nightly): Murphy and Mack, comedians; Charles Ulrick, barrel king; Ruthie Vollmer, comedienne and dancer; pictures.

TIVOLI.—P., The Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; M. D. and Licensee, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—This week (twice nightly): Bert Coote and company in "A Lamb on Wall Street"; Charlie Robinson, comedian; Maud and Gill, gymnasts; Three Lascelles, in "The Aviators"; Rowe and Revelle, comedy duo; the Carpatti Brothers, gymnasts.

ABERTILLERY.

NEW METROPOLE THEATRE.—P., Messrs. C. J. Seaborn and Bob Evans; M. D., Mr. F. Drake.—This week: Mr. Harold Wagner and Miss Ada Tilley's company in "A Trip to Chinatown." The company includes: Mr. Fred Lytton, Miss Gwenora Thayer, and Miss Ada Tilley.

PAVILION.—P., Messrs. A. Tilney and Sons; M., Mr. E. Pryce.—This week (twice nightly): Zena Clare, the Krakes, George Danton, Tom Frank, Sinclair Neil, and Alice Millar in "The Bank Thief"; and pictures.

ACCRINGTON.

GRAND.—P., Mr. William Wilson; R. M., Mr. Fred W. Green.—This week: Mr. George Dance presents "The Chocolate Soldier." The company includes: Messrs. Aubrey Millward, G. Hardcastle, S. Williams, G. Pattison, E. Langford, Tom Verity, R. Harry Barrett, Walter Heal, W. P. Morgan, Misses Edith St. George, Melba Sharrot, Elsie Craven, E. White, F. Metkins, and D. De Florac.

NEW HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Fred Willmott; R. M., Mr. J. Windsor Stevenson. This week: Messrs. Harry Elliston and Fred Willmott's pantomime, "The Babes in the Wood." The company includes: The Misses Mabel Osborne, Mora Hersee, Marie May, Clarice Handel, Van Lyndon, Kathleen Raymond, Susie and Vio, Messrs. Harry Elliston, August and September, Van Lyndon, and the Four Minims. The Five Yorkshire Lassies. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

EMPIRE PALACE.—P., Mr. William Wilson; M., Mr. Harold Wilson.—This week: Mr. George Thornton's orchestra and pictures.

ALDERSHOT.

ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Clarence Sounes; G. M., Mr. Jack Gladwin; A. M., Mr. W. H. Willats.—This week: "The Easiest Way." Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company includes: Misses Elsie Goulding, Nora Vaughan, Bessie Frank, Sybil Claymore, Lilian Belmore, and Messrs. J. Edward Pearce, E. Rayson-Cousens, and Arthur Murray.

ARBROATH.

OLYMPIA.—M., Mr. Graham Brown.—This week: Walker and Bunting, in musical comedy, "In the Hielands"; Will Sullivan, comedian; Mint and Mart, in comedy act, "Pranks in a Drawing-room"; and pictures.

ASHINGTON.

PAVILION.—P., Hirst Pavilion Co., R. M., Mr. Frank Percival.—This week: Mlle. de Rose presents "Cinderella." The company includes: Miss Dolly Caffrey, Miss Mabel Tremere, Miss Nellie Hill, Miss Alice Danby, Mr. Billy Bell, Mr. Tot Dryden, Mr. Bob Coates, Mr. Fred Fredrico, Mr. Edward Edgaro, Mr. Harry Cooke, Miss Hilda Claremont, etc. T. M., Mr. Fred Arthur. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.

MINERS' THEATRE.—P., Messrs. Thompson and Metcalfe; R. M., Mr. Harry Clegg.—This week (twice nightly): Menotti, in cycle track act; Whitaker and Holland, duettists; and pictures.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and M., Mr. Charles Revill; A. M., Mr. Charles Revill, jun.; Mus. D., Mr. W. H. Halton.—This week (once nightly): George Edwardes presents, on Monday and Tuesday, "The Merry Widow"; and on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, "The Dollar Princess." The company includes: Mr. H. Sinclair Cotter, Mr. Ripley Evans, Mr. Tom Redmond, Mr. William Allison, Mr. George Adams, Mr. Clifford Beyler, Mr. Ernest Climpson, Mr. Clifton Hamilton, Mr. Fred Maguire, Miss Carda Walker, Miss Florence Ivy, Miss Marie Hanney, Miss Peggy Quainton, Miss Ethel Craske, Miss Madge Stewart, Miss Kathleen Stone, Miss Mae Jackson, Miss Freda Large, Miss Kathleen Rae, Miss Lucie Donati, Miss Effie Mann. T. M., Mr. Clifford Stacey. Next week: "The Round-Up."

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. J. Boyle.—This week (once nightly): Ashton Operatic Society present "San Toy." The company includes: Mme. Lilian Swift, Miss Clara Gabbitas, Miss Ethel Shaw, Mrs. E. Entwistle, Mrs. Clarke, Miss M. Davies, Miss N. Swindells, Mrs. Whitley, Miss B. Morris, Miss A. Emery, Miss Ethel Howarth, Miss Clara Urmson, Miss Lottie Greenwood, Mr. E. Entwistle, Mr. Jas. Jackson, Mr. F. Worsley, Mr. G. Makin, Mr. Len Hinds, Mr. T. Entwistle, Mr. Tom Owen, Mr. A. Lawton, Mr. H. Clayton, Mr. W. Keighley, Mr. R. H. Makin, etc. A. M., Mr. J. C. Castle.

PICTURE PAVILION.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. Arthur Downes; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Coleman.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Horace White, ventriloquist; the Four Newburys, rag-time singers; and pictures. Every Friday evening (second house), amateur singing and variety "business" competition for prizes. Matinées, Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday, at 2.30.

BACUP.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. J. Walters.—This week: Mr. and Mrs. John Walters present "Robinson Crusoe." The company includes: Misses Dorothy Veitch, Freda Plowden, Nell Rene, Elsie Edwards, Kitty Liske, Esme Ellesmere, Mollie Carling, and Doris Somerset; the Marius Low Dancing Girls, Brothers Aston, Baby Beaty, Messrs. Harry Murr, Harry Rousby, Walter Lennard, the Stevannas, Messrs. Edwin Ludlow, Tom Hulme, Dan Belmore, Billy Sands, and Miss Jessie Hardacre, Miss Sylvia Ceville, and Mr. Dan Best.

PUBLIC HALL.—L., Messrs. Glenville and Osmond; M., Mr. J. Clay.—This week: Mr. Frank Whiteley, character comedian; and pictures.

BANGOR.

NEW COUNTY THEATRE.—Sole P., Mr. James Hare; R. M., Mr. G. W. Smith-Neill; Mus. D., Mr. John Bates.—This week (once nightly, and matinées Wednesday and Saturday): Mr. Harry Joseph's company present "Dick Whittington." The company includes: Miss Alma Lorene, Miss Rosie Dent, Miss Gloria Laurence, Miss Rosie Brand, Miss Maie Brand, Miss Jennie Wray, Mr. Ted E. Rose, Mr. Reg Heaton, Miss Nellie Merrie, Mr. Will Dale, Miss Edie Clark, Miss Winnie Hall, Miss Mabel Wilde, Miss Pauline Cornish, Miss Ada Walker, Miss Toots Desmond, Mr. L. Hampton, Mr. Will Elton, Mr. Bert Elton, Brothers Brooke, Mr. Frankland-Grey, Mr. Ern. Moore, Miss Rose Sayers, Miss Tess Jones, Miss Floss Bankes, Miss Annie Rounds, Miss Rene Willoughby, etc. Specialities by the Three Eltons, Brothers Brooke, Mlle. Sara's Marblesque Trio, Miss Ray Anderson's Blue Bells, Ted E. Rose, Sisters Brand. Augmented orchestra.

ELECTRIC PICTUREDROME.—P., Mr. John Codman; M., Mr. W. Lea.—This week: Miss Dott Moss, the toy comedienne; and pictures.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

ROYALTY.—L. & M., Mr. H. Robertson; R. M., Mr. George Stone.—This week (once nightly and matinée, Saturday, 2.30): Gar Kiddie's company in "The Babes in the Wood." The company includes: Miss Daisy Wilson, Miss Gertie May, Miss Nora Beverley, Miss Esme Elsie, Miss Mirtle Count, Miss Ethel Clegg, Miss Cora Mason, Miss Nance Hodge, Miss May Alford, Miss Katey Burnes, Mr. Walter Raynor, Miss Ada Yeates, Miss E. Thompson, Miss Lottie Jones, Miss R. Sterling, Miss Jessie Allen, &c. B. M., Mr. Carl Spencer. Next week: "The Glad Eye."

TIVOLI.—L. and M., Signor Pepi; R. M., Mr. Emilius Hill; Mus. D., Mr. T. H. Hulley.—This week (twice nightly): The Mysterious Lady in Red; Ettie Howard; Cissie Loftus; Mlle. Eldee; Tom E. Hughes, comedian; Brizlee, piccolo soloist; the Dancing Paceys, dancers; the Jenkins Brothers, comedy acrobats; Lily Lena, comedienne.

BARRY DOCK.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Tours, Ltd.; M. D., Arthur Carlton; M., Mr. T. E. Maddox.—This week: songs and pictures.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—P., Mr. Leon Vint; G. M., Mr. Arthur Brogden; R. M., Mr. H. Samson.—This week: La Delbosq, in dances and musical pot pourri; Four Comedy Argyles; and pictures.

BATH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Egbert Lewis; A. M., Mr. Lewis A. Long; Mus. D., Mr. G. Alexander.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Dance presents "The Whip." The company includes: Mr. Bert Golday, Mr. Charles V. Sandford, Mr. Frank Powell, Mr. Ernest James, Mr. George P. Polson, Mr. Frank Henry, Mr. H. Campbell, Mr. Dennis Renton, Mr. Lawrence J. Lawrence, Mr. Arthur Nicholas, Miss Naomi Neilson, Miss Barbara Allen, Miss Julie Kennard, Miss Violet Roberts, Miss Violet Lindsay, Miss Louie Brett, Miss Lilian Earle, Mr. Leslie Jarvis, Miss Agnes Hewett, Miss Mabel Milne, Miss Ethel Wylie, Mr. Robert Shenford, Mr. J. Austin, Mr. Robert H. Nash, Mr. Fred Elkington, Mr. Henry Walker. T. M., Mr. Arthur E. Holland. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30. Next week: Farewell visit of Forbes-Robertson and Gertrude Elliott.

PALACE.—L., Mr. W. S. Pearce; M., Mr. Leslie Fairfax.—This week (twice nightly): T. Elder Hearn; Miss Rose Cambrey, comedienne; Niagara and Falls, comedy acrobats; Chas. Stevenson, comedian; Geo. Harvard, in "The Fairy's Wand"; and pictures.

BATLEY.

HIPPODROME.—L. & M., Mr. C. Draycott.—This week (twice nightly): Joe Redfern presents "Cinderella." The company includes: Miss Florrie Millington, Miss Val Gerald, Miss Ada Bellfield, Miss Vanda Rees, Miss Kitty Marston, Miss Alice Bellfield, Mr. Jack Murray, Miss Marion Holly, Mr. Will Charlton, Mr. Harold Carlyle, Mr. George Houghton, Mr. Walter Amner, Mr. Willie Westwood, etc. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

BELFAST.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. Fred W. Warden; A. M., Mr. James M. McCann.—After six weeks' successful run, the Christmas pantomime, "Jack and the Beanstalk," concluded on Saturday night, the enthusiasm at the final performance being intense. On Monday, Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company opened for six nights' engagement, the piece produced being "The Taming of the Shrew," with Miss Gladys Vanderzee and Mr. Henry Herbert in the principal rôles of Katherine and Petruchio, to which they did every credit. On Tuesday, "If I Were King" was the attraction. In this Mr. Henry Herbert admirably interpreted the rôle of François Villon; and congratulations are due to Miss Gladys Vanderzee for her clever portrayal of Katherine de Vancelles; Mr. John Cairns was an ideal Louis XI.; and other rôles received every justice at the hands of this capable company. During the week "Merry Wives of Windsor" (students' night), "Othello," "Julius Cæsar," "Twelfth Night," and "Hamlet" have also been performed. Next week: The American play, "The Barrier."

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Warden, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Fred W. Warden.—Messrs. F. Marriott-Watson and James Ussher's company opened here on Monday with the four-act drama, "The Man Tempted Me." Mr. Aubrey Norton impersonates Amos Sharpe with no little skill; and Mr. Dick Seddon capably interpreted Albert Algernon Higgs, the amateur detective. The difficult rôle of Lilian Wynter was sustained with rare judgment by Miss Fay Garnet-Vayne; and Miss Ada Gower furnished a vivacious impersonation of Matilda Ann Snoggs. Mr. Juan D'Alberti furnished a powerful impersonation of Mark Wylde; and a thoroughly convincing impersonation of the iniquitous Isaac Schlenk was given by Mr. F. Marriott-Watson. Mr. Jesse Ablett is worthy of high commendation for his realistic impersonation of the Rev. Reginald Varley; Miss Florence E. Florence appeared to advantage as La Jolie Diable; and other rôles were sustained by Miss P. Rushby and Messrs. George Tempest, Maurice Clifton, A. Ferde, R. Newman, John Raymond, &c. Next week: "Through Death Valley; or, The Mormon Peril."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—P., Alexandra Theatre Co.; R. M. D., Mr. J. Leicester Jackson.—Mr. Charles Edward Clarkson's pantomime, "Little Red Riding Hood" is the attraction here, and on Monday was accorded an enthusiastic reception. The principal rôle of Robin Hood was sustained in dashing style by Miss Claire Hastings, her rendering of many catchy songs winning her the heartiest encomiums; Mr. Cecil H. Raymond, a versatile comedian, was undoubtedly very droll as Simple Simon; and Little Eva Petrie was a sweet and dainty Little Red Riding Hood. Mr. Fred C. Imbert furnished a clever impersonation of Dame Durden; and a delightful interpretation of Maid Marion was furnished by charming Miss Olive Young. Miss Gale appeared as Phyllis; and Miss Murray sustained the rôle of Will Scarlett. Messrs. Jackson and Marte kept the fun going merrily as Much the Miller and Little the Tanner. Other rôles were adequately presented by Miss Elsie Smythe, Miss Myra Douglass, and Messrs. Meklin Williams, R. Martin, Miss Ethel Vanse, Miss Gladys Vaughan, Miss Violet Arthur, &c. Specialities were provided by Miss Clare Hastings and Little Joey; Mme. Verona's sextette of lady dancers; Jackson and Marte, comedians; Mr. Cecil H. Raymond, comedian; Misses Gale and Murray, comedy artists; Little Eva Petrie, Scotch comedienne; and Meklin Williams, baritone vocalist, Mr. Arthur Curzon Howe skilfully conducted the augmented orchestra.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Fred Willmot; R. M., Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The leading feature here is supplied by Graham Moffat's Scottish Players, who appear with great success in their Scottish sketch, "The Concealed Bed." The Great Aerial Smiths are undoubtedly wonderful trapeze artistes, their feats being quite extraordinary; and Lowenwirth and Cohan, Hebrew comedians, are paying a welcome return visit. Mr. Leo Dryden appears in one of his attractive song playlets, which are an acquisition to any variety programme; and also here are Jean Kram, the erratic juggler; Miss Grace Stahl, character comedienne; Pete and Juno, coloured comedians and dancers; the Simms, in novel speciality; Mr. Fred Evans; and the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—G. M., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The top of the bill here is occupied by Les Valentes, Continental dancers, whose display of the terpsichorean art is certainly unique; Bert Lloyd and company present, with every degree of favour, their sketch, "What a Pal"; and the Musical Boldens appear in their scena, "Home Again." Also billed are Carrie Wood, comedienne and dancer; Harry Lomar, baritone; Linn and Darius, in instrumental speciality scena; Little Dando, eccentric comedian; and the Bioscope.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. Will White.—The vaudeville is sustained here by the O'Malleys, quaint character comedians; Mr. Hal Miller, catchy comedy chorus singer. Pictures complete.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—G. M., Mr. Herbert Rogers.—This week: Toft and Tate, novelty duettists and quick-change artistes; and pictures.

NEW PRINCESS THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. Ferris Pounds.—This week: Sid Vernon, the chorus comedian; and pictures.

BILSTON.

HIPPODROME AND PICTURE HOUSE.—P., Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; R. M., Mr. E. Du Rocher.—This week: "The 10.30 Down Express," presented by Mr. Horace Stanley's company, including Mr. Harry Scott, Mr. Oswald Douglas, Mr. Horace Stanley, Miss Maggie English, Miss Hilda Miller, Miss Kate Kilpack.

WOOD'S PICTURE PALACE.—M., Mr. Thomas R. Wood.—This week: The Two O'Marrs, comedy couple; Hettie Hodson, comedienne and dancer; James Callan, character comedian; and D. W. Watson, cornet and posthorn speciality.

BIRKENHEAD.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole P. and M., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. H. M. King.—This week (once nightly): Mr. P. Michael Faraday's production, "The Chocolate Soldier." The company includes: Miss Pearl Ladd, Miss Courtis Cheal, Miss Mabel Crouch, Mr. Harry Arnold, Mr. Lawrence Howard, Mr. Harry Chiles, Mr. Sidney Croger, Mr. Harry Milner, Miss Gertrude Hember, Miss Suzette Dole, Mr. C. Barnard-Brown, Miss Rubie Leslie, Miss Lilian Major, Mr. James Davis, Mr. Leo. Sheffield. T. M., Mr. T. M. Walter. Matinée, Thursday, 2.30. Next week: "A Waltz Dream."

HIPPODROME.—M.D., Mr. Walter de Frece; D. of Entertainments, Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. Frank Weston; Mus. D., Mr. R. Tomlinson.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. C. Vernon Proctor's company in "What Happened to Jones." Company includes Messrs. C. Vernon Proctor, Charles Sewill, C. Carleton Crowe, Frank Venn, Raymond Dudley, Claude Seaton, John Sewell, and the Misses Amy Rudd, Henrietta Polini, Nancy Clutterbuck, Sara Dudley, Cristine Jensen, and Connie Meadows.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole P. and M., Mr. D. J. Clarke; A. M., Mr. John Keating; Mus. D., Mr. Ernest Denney.—This week: Mr. Whit Cunliffe, comedian; Miss Nellie Wallace, eccentric comedienne; Mr. Max Erard and company, in "The Silver Wedding"; Griff, assisted by George, in jugglery, mimicry, etc; Minnie Hunt and Rhys Thomas in comedy duologue, "Father Time"; Frank and Vesta, rag-time artistes; Miss Jessie Albini, comedienne; Frank H. Fox, comedian; and pictures.

BIRMINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Theatre Royal (Birmingham), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Tom B. Davies; G. M., Mr. Philip Rodway; Asst. M., Mr. F. Smith.—"Goody Two Shoes" continues its run with unabated success. At the head of affairs on the comedy side is the inimitable George Robey, with Fred Conquest, the MacNaughtons, and Harry Kisbey in close attendance. Miss Nellie Wigley is the most handsome of "boys," and Miss Maie Ash a dainty "Goody."

PRINCE OF WALES.—P., Prince of Wales Theatre (Birmingham), Ltd.; M. D., Messrs. Milton Bode and John Hart; A. M., Mr. Henry Johnson.—"Twinkle Little Star" will soon cease its bright career, the announcement being made that the run will close on Feb. 15. The pantomime is one of particular charm, and it will be with regret that Birmingham theatregoers part from Lulu Valli, Irene Dillon, Bert Gilbert, Marriott Edgar, and all those who have made the production such a success.

ALEXANDRA.—P., Mr. Leon Salberg; A. M., Mr. W. T. Guest.—"Robinson Crusoe" continues to arouse unabated interest. Bert Harrow is witty at every turn, and has a fund of humour that keeps the audience bubbling with merriment. Miss Myra Hammar is a delightful "boy," and Miss Ray Ford a dainty Polly Perkins. The cast is one of all-round excellence, and everything goes with a capital swing.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—P., Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; L., Mr. T. Morton Powell; A. M., Mr. H. E. Cox.—Twice nightly: That charming musical comedy, "Peggy," is being produced in delightful fashion here this week. The music is bright, and the comedy of excellent order. Mr. Gus Oxley, as Umbles, keeps the audience laughing merrily all the while, and he is supported by a first-rate company.

ASTON THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mr. Chas. Barnard; M., Mr. Lewis Chapman.—Twice nightly: Messrs. Montgomery and Jazon's "Dick Whittington" is the attraction here this week, and is proving immensely popular. Miss Jenny Reeves is excellent in the title-rôle, and a dainty Alice is seen in Miss Mollie Sayers. Will Cameo gives a capital impersonation of the cat, and some excellent comedy is provided by William Miller, Fred Ward, Goodall and Knox, and Will Penn.

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. W. H. Bebby; Asst. M., Mr. A. Williams.—George Mozart is highly entertaining in his thumb-nail sketches of various racecourse characters; a very funny love-making scene is illustrated in a sketch by Cooper and Lait; the Paulastos give a fine acrobatic performance; Doris Duquesne is a clever child comedienne; Nixon Grey has some humorous and original songs; Brown and Nevarro present international types in excellent fashion; and Eddie Martin and Tom Purslow are good comedians.

GRAND.—P., Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Gordon E. Craig; Asst. M., Mr. H. F. Coward.—Albert Whelan is topping the bill in his delightfully varied entertainments; admirable songs and dramatic recitals are given by "The Musketeers"; Laurette and Laurel are two dainty comediennes and clever acrobats; Gesela and Rose give a pleasing pot-pourri; Dort and Leonard introduce quaint comedy into a clever acrobatic performance; Roya and Regan are skilful dancers; J. W. Rowley is an entertaining comedian; and Veronica Brady is a clever comedy vocalist.

HIPPODROME.—P., New Hippodrome (Birmingham), Ltd.; M., Mr. Ben de Frece; R. M., Mr. H. Hamilton.—The Gotham Quartette are nightly entertaining comedians and acrobats; the Viennese Trio are thoroughly appreciated as clever musicians; Nina Gordon is a very entertaining mimic; Shields and Rogers give a clever lasso throwing and acrobatic performance; two amusing comedians are seen in the Brothers Leo; and smart eccentric dancing is given by Bert Earle. Harry M. Vernon and company present a very exciting scena, "Don't You Believe It"; and an entertaining sketch, "Susan's Embellishments," is presented by J. Vedrenne and D. Eadie's company.

GAIETY.—L. & M., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; A. M., Mr. Walter Bellian.—"The Lady, the Lion, the Horse, and the Dog," as presented by Miss Aurora, give a daring performance, showing remarkable acts of animal intelligence; a sketch which makes a strong appeal to the audience is "The Ragged Patriot," presented by A. Fitzmaurice and R. Lord's company; Carlotta Levey is very popular with her songs; Carreze and Keith give a clever comedy equilibristic act; John Henry is a good vocalist; Hugo is a remarkably clever jumper; the Two Styles are quaint singing comedians; and Keane Harker sings in very original style.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—P., Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Director of Entertainments, Mr. S. T. Newsome; A. M., Mr. T. H. Middleton.—A strong programme is headed by Captain F. H. Shaw's company in "All Square," an exciting Western episode which makes a profound appeal; the Schiavary's Troupe are very clever tumblers and acrobats; a clever mannikin act is presented by J. W. Lewis; Violet Leslie sings her songs with a charming voice; Eddie Lyle and Larry are novelty comedians; Fred Cary is a smart comedian; Ruby and Bella are two dainty comediennes; and Bert Castle is a swell comedian of taking style.

NEW PALACE.—P., Messrs. Moss' Empires Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Geo. Anthony.—Couquelli, mimic; Pitts and Kelway's company in "Brothers in Affliction"; and the Ramsais, two clever juveniles; and pictures.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.

EDEN THEATRE.—L. & G. M., Mr. Chas. Elderton; R. M., Mr. F. Steels.—This week: Mr. G. Carlton Wallace presents "The Apple of Eden." The company includes: Mr. J. G. Graham, Miss Doris Gilham, Mr. Percy Ballard, Mr. Richard A. Greene, Mr. Charlton, Mr. W. S. Stevenson, Mr. Henry Chalmers, and the Misses Evelyn Robson, Owen Verschoyle, and Iris Trevarthen.

HIPPODROME.—L., The Standard Electric Theatres, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. H. Warren.—This week: The J. W. Turner English Opera Company, in "Don Giovanni," "Daughter of the Regiment," "Maritana," and "Bohemian Girl." The company includes: Miss Sara Williams, Kitty Brownless, Ella Vane, Beatrice Hill, Evelyn Ray, and Messrs. Frank Clarke, Seth Hughes, Tom Griffiths, Sidney Clifford, John Kelly, T. Yates, F. J. Hargrave, and Chas. Williams.

BLACKBURN.

ROYAL.—M., Mr. Harry Lyons.—On Monday Mr. George Dance's company presented "The Hope," but owing to the disastrous fire which occurred on Tuesday morning the performances for the remainder of the week had to be abandoned.

PALACE.—P. & M. D., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. Arthur Burton.—This week (twice nightly): Marie Schultz; the Jesse L. Lasky company present "Detective Keen"; Russell Brandow; Frank Maura; Gladys Huxley; the Sisters Gilby; Almasio and Yamina, &c.

BLACKPOOL.

HER MAJESTY'S.—G. M., Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—This week: On Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, and Wednesday matinée Mrs. George Munro presents "Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace," preceded by "An Orange Girl"; and on Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday "Caste." Her company will include: Mr. Norman B. Cannon, Mr. Edwin Lever, Mr. Arthur P. Holland, Mr. Eric Norman, Mr. David Crowe, Miss Ena Douglas, Miss Mary Douglas, Miss Alice M. Howe, and Mrs. George Munro. Next week: "Sherlock Holmes."

PALACE.—G. M., Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; A. M., Mr. Fred Waller.—This week (once nightly): The Omega Trio, equilibrists; Baker and Gee, ragtimers at the piano; Metz and Metz, in conversational and dancing act; Guy Rider, in "The Regimental Pet"; Ada Leach, vocalist; the Minerva Troupe of Cyclists; Bell and Butt, comedians; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30. Next week: Mark Sheridan.

BOLTON.

ROYAL.—P., Bolton Theatre and Entertainments Co.; M. D., Mr. J. F. Elliston; A. M., Mr. J. Moncur.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Cyril Maude's company in "Bunty Pulls the Strings." The company includes: Mr. David Urquhart, Mr. R. B. Drysdale, Mr. Abie Barker, Mr. Frank Reynor, Mr. Forrest Niven, Miss Mary Campbell, Miss Josephine Woodward, Miss Ella Young, Miss Eva Young, Miss Jean Clyde. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30. Preceded by "The Price of Coal." Next week: "The Monk and the Woman."

GRAND.—P., Bolton Theatre and Entertainments Co.; M. D., Mr. J. F. Elliston; A. M., Mr. A. Booth.—This week (twice nightly): H. O. Wills presents "The Forty Thieves." T. M., Mr. Johnny Clegg. The company includes: Mr. H. O. Wills, Mr. Lincoln Taylor, Mr. Matt. Morley, Miss Rose Alderman, Miss Nellie Townsend, Miss Ralda Hall, Mr. Ben Ford, Mr. H. Esdale, Mr. R. Esdale, Mr. Sid Raymond, Miss Fannie Holmshaw, Miss Louie Hunter, Miss May Edney, Miss Ada Fawn. Matinées, Monday and Saturday, 2.30. Next week: "The Babes in the Wood."

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. Arthur R. Harrison.—This week (twice nightly): George N. Ballanger presents "The Round Up." The company includes: Ray Raymond, Jas. Willoughby, Charles Levey, Alfred Grenville, James McWilliam, Alfred Lafolle, Fk. Holyoake, G. Halsten, A. Herdsfield, W. S. Ford, S. Morris, Alfred Lovell, T. Leslie, H. W. Hall, G. Kickgate, H. Stanley, W. Heaton, F. Clough, B. Elmsall, Edgar Neville, Lewis Block, F. B. Kelly, By Herself, Mercia Russell, Edith Giddens, Nora Kingsley, and Rita Tomkins. T. M., Mr. George E. Carleton. Matinée, Monday, at 2.30.

BOOTLE.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—P., Pennington Estate Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Harry Pennington; Mus. D., Mr. Tom Shaw.—This week (once nightly): T. Edward Ward's company in "The Slave Girl." T. M., Mr. C. W. Spencer. The company includes: S. Elwyn-Leslie, Fred Rivers, C. W. Spencer, A. Arnold Allen, Tom May, Victor Cannon, Yankee Weston, Chas. Ryde, Louie King, Lily Jessing, Nellie Hayes, Effie Macintosh, Lizzie Chambers, Gem Lloyd, Miss Ward. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30.

BOSCOMBE.

HIPPODROME.—P., South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. H. S. Charlton.—This week (twice nightly): Jean and Josie; Stella Stahl; the Gladiators' company, including Mr. Slaine Mills, Mr. Lancelot Lowder, and Miss Yolande May; also Jack Lorimer, comedian; Tribune and Cerrero; "Wild Australia"; and pictures. Next week: The Courtiers, etc.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole P., David Allen and Sons; Sole L., the Executors of the late Frederick Mouillot; R. M., Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Dance presents "The Sunshine Girl." The company includes: Messrs. Jack Morrison, Harry Bentham, Percy Cahill, Richard Saker, Chas. McCann, John Rorke, Frank Foy, A. H. Odams, Fred C. Odams, Cyril Mayne, J. Broadbent, Clifford Warren, Lionel Greene, Jack Morris, Theodore Leonard, the Misses Winiferd Volt, Mary Leyland, Cora Engleton, Ethel Monks, Queenie Hare, Mollie Moore, Lily Bell,

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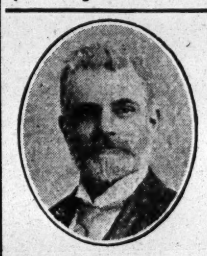

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Netta Tomlinson, Marion Mcynell, Ruby Hope, Dorothy Cooper, Jennie Richards, Mysie Devine, &c. T. M., Mr. George Mudie, jun. Matinée, Saturday, 2.45. Next week: "Ready Money."

WINTER GARDENS.—G. M., Mr. Dan Godfrey; B. M., Mr. Henry Woodard; S., Mr. F. L. Parsons.—This week: The Municipal Orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Dan Godfrey, Monday and Thursday at 3, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday at 8. Each evening and Wednesday and Friday afternoon, special lecture by Mrs. Brown Potter on Hindoo Philosophy; Friday, at 3 and 8, the Zancigs, Nina Wood, Manitto Klitgaard, and full orchestra; Wednesday, at 3, Mme. Ada Crossley, Manitto Klitgaard, and full orchestra; Saturday, at 3, Adela Verne, pianist.

BRADFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mr. John Hart; M., Mr. J. Richardson.—The lease of "The House that Jack Built" has, it is announced, three weeks to run, and Mr. Hart's customary generosity during that period is to be extended to charitable matinées and treats to the workhouse inmates, who are to see the pantomime at its best.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—L., Mr. Francis Laidler; G. M., Mr. N. Hepworth; A. M., Mr. F. Yearsley.—The final weeks of "Cinderella's" run are billed, and Mr. Laidler's cleverly trained children are the present big feature of the pantomime at the matinées—they are filling the parts of the principals with much cleverness, and their efforts are very entertaining. In co-operation with Mr. Hart, Mr. Laidler is organising a big pantomime performance for the benefit of the charities.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Percival Craig.—Mr. John Tiller is presenting here this week another of his bright pantomimes, viz., "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves," in which there are some excellent scenic effects and no lack of humour on the part of a company of comedians which includes quaint Jack Pleasants as Cogia, Mr. Freddy French as Ali Baba, Mr. Billy Amstel as Cassim, and Mr. E. J. Baker as the donkey. The ladies, too, fill their rôles with much acceptance, Miss Nellie Rodney as Ganem, Miss Jessie Gerrard as Morgiana, and Miss Edith Jefferies as Abdullah being much in evidence in a performance which evokes laughter and applause. A feature in this, as in all Mr. Tiller's productions, is the dancing, and the Twelve Merry Mascots give a smart and clever display which does much to brighten an animated performance, Rag-time playing a prominent part.

PALACE.—L., Mr. F. Macnaghten; M., Mr. Will A. Jackson.—The old favourite comedian and comic conjurer, Carlton, is on a return visit here, and he is accompanied by the giant Hausman and a dwarf, the combination proving excruciatingly funny. Master David Paget, the clever boy violinist, is accorded a hearty reception; an amusing sketch, "Artful Alfred," is presented with success by the Wilton Heriot Trio; the Three Royal Matsuis are remarkably clever Japanese jugglers; there is a fine exhibition of Parisian and whirlwind dancing by the Le Gay Trio; Sacabona, in a good entertainment, presents a remarkable vanishing trick; Vera Caine gives a clever exhibition of ball-punching and club-swinging; and the other successful contributors to the fine programme are Hughie Ogilvie, Scottish comedian; Florence Cooper, contralto vocalist; and Billy French, comedian.

BRANDON (Durham).

CENTRAL HALL.—P., Messrs. Wood and Briggs; M., Mr. T. H. Young; Stage M., Mr. Harry Metcalf; Mus. D., Mr. Ben Slack.—This week (twice nightly): Marquis and Truly, Continental eccentrics; Mr. E., joke illustrator; the Evalos, in jocular jugglery; Madge Troy, comedienne, etc.; George Handel and Page, acrobats; and pictures.

BRIGHTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Brighton Theatre Royal, Ltd.; M., Mr. Lawson Lambert.—Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton's company is here this week with "Everywoman," which is superbly staged. Mr. Edward Compton as the mysterious Nobody delivers the prologue to each act and the concluding epilogue very effectively; Miss May Congdon submits a highly artistic impersonation of Everywoman; and others in the heavy cast who merit warm praise include Miss Daisy England (Truth), Miss Beatrice Yaldwyn (Beauty), Miss Haidee Barry (Youth), Miss Helen Oliver (Modesty), Mr. Fred Powell (Wealth), Mr. William P. Sheen (Stuff), Mr. H. Strangways Lesmere (Bluff), and Mr. Mervyn Colomb (Passion).

GRAND THEATRE.—L. & M. D., Mr. Ernest Gates; G. M., Mr. Ben Court.—The pantomime, "Red Riding Hood," closes its run here this (Saturday) evening.

HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. W. H. Boardman.—The following are here this week: Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco, Court magicians; Liane D'Eve, who sings charmingly in "A Stage Dressing-room Scene"; the Kenneth Lyle Quartet, instrumentalists and vocalists; Jack and Violet Kelly, whip manipulators; the Whittakers, in the burlesque, "Dick Whittington"; Signor Torti, tenor vocalist; George Prince, comedian; and Lauri Wylie, with his toy theatre.

WEST PIER THEATRE.—S., Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Miss Octavia Kenmore, Mr. Leigh Lovel and company are here with "Captain Brassbound's Conversion." Miss Octavia Kenmore submits a graceful and charming enactment of Lady Cicely Waynflete; Mr. Edmund Kennedy's Captain Brassbound is a clever character study; and Mr. Leigh Lovel achieves great success as the hypocritical Felix Drinkwater. The play is admirably mounted.

PALACE PIER THEATRE.—M., Mr. Gilbert Laye. Mr. Frank Weathersby's company occupies the boards here with "The Witness for the Defence." Mr. George Delaforce is distinctly successful in his impersonation of Harold Hazlewood, whose son Richard is well represented by Mr. S. P. Goodyer Kettley; Miss Dorrie Roberts makes an admirable Stella Ballantyne; Mr. Alec Alves as Stephen Ballantyne, and Mr. Roland Daniel as Henry Thresk, merit praise; and effective support is rendered by Miss Elsie Roberts and Mr. Byron Douglass.

COURT.—P., Brighton Court Theatre, Ltd.; M. D., Mrs. M. Barrasford.—This week (twice nightly): The Minstrel Bell Trio; G. H. Barr; Wee Mona Warwick; and pictures.

BRISTOL.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—P. & M., the Representatives of the late Mr. J. M. Chute; R. M. & T., Mr. J. Ellis Miller; Mus. D., Mr. G. R. Chapman.—There was a packed house here on Monday evening. It was a "Sports' night," to all intents and purposes, for the benefit of Marr, the Bristol City football player, and the promoters of the benefit were much gratified at the presence of so many Bristol City officials and players, and even more so at the support accorded by the Bristol Rovers' officials and players and Bristol and Clifton Rugby representatives. Marr appeared on the stage at the close of the performance, and, amid much enthusiasm, was presented with a handsome silver double-handled loving cup, which was suitably inscribed, and adorned with the Bristol City colours in red and white streamers. We understand that the cup is engraved with the coats of arms of Bristol City and Burnley, the teams which meet on Saturday next on the occasion of Marr's benefit. The performance of "Dick Whittington" went splendidly from start to finish. Miss Winifred Ward (Dick), and Miss Norah Guy (Alice) have both new songs, which go well; the former having been allotted "Waiting for the Robert E. Lee," and the latter "I want to be in Dixie." Mr. George French's "Football" song naturally was very popular, and his Fitzwarren appeared to be more quaint than ever.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mrs. Emma Carpenter; G. M., Mr. F. W. Carpenter; R. M., Mr. Henry C. Alty; Mus. D., Mr. Edwin Jacobs.—There was a full house here on Monday evening, and "Cinderella" went with the accustomed swing. The artistes all work very hard and successfully. Special mention may be made of the graceful and conscientious acting of Miss Anna Schuberth as Prince Charming, and her excellent singing; Miss Alice Digby, as Cinderella, who also both acts and sings well; and the clever and energetic performances of Miss Nellie Merton as Dandini, and Mr. George Rydon, as Pickles, the Baron's page. Mr. Willie Reid is amusing as the Baron, and the quaint performance of the Baroness by Mr. Victor Wakeman, who also presents an exceptionally clever musical-mimetic speciality, is greatly enjoyed.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; R. M., Mr. N. Preston-Hilary; A. M., Mr. F. S. Green; Mus. D., Mr. Howard W. Galpin.—Percy Honri and company are successfully presenting the musical phantasy, "Bohemia," which is admirably staged. The music includes Mr. Honri's clever solos on the concertina, a full brass band, and other instrumental items. There is plenty of excellent singing and some graceful dancing, that of Mlle. Quetta Papuccia and little Kathleen Keating being of special merit. "Wild Australia" is another leading attraction; it is said to be performed by real Bushmen and Bushwomen, including Frank Joy, champion whip expert. Percy Hayden entertains successfully with songs at the piano; Haidee De Rance presents some clever violin playing, and sings pleasingly; Drawee, Hambo, and Frisco score with comic juggling feats, etc.; Inez and Pim do some clever and expert gymnastics, etc.; Daisy Sloan pleases with her Scotch song and dance; and interesting Bioscope pictures conclude.

EMPIRE.—R. M., Mr. Henry Lucas; Mus. D., Mr. Louis Gourvitch.—George Lashwood, light comedian, is highly successful here, all his songs and patter being fully appreciated; the Three Bilfords (two gentlemen and a lady) do some sensational bicycle acts very neatly; Russell Carr gives a good ventriloquial act; Edith Pink is a pleasing and successful comedienne; Samaroff and Sonia, the "Russian peasants with dogs," do a smart turn, their little dogs being admirably trained; Sim Maree contributes some extraordinary contortionist feats; Jack Warman sings and patters; Lottie Stone's "Eight Beautiful Dolls" sing and dance well; and interesting pictures conclude.

PALACE.—M. Mr. Horace Livermore; Mus. D., Mr. Frederic Fey.—There is an attractive programme at this popular hall, including Hamilton's Excursions and Diorama of a "Tour through the Far East"; the bison sensational drama, "The Law of the West," which is full of thrilling incidents; and numerous other attractive pictures. The solo vocalists for the week are Miss May Ellis, soprano, and Mme. Barrett Stone, contralto.

BEDMINSTER HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter De Frece; R. M., Mr. A. J. Carter; Mus. D., Mr. Maitland de Lacy.—Frederic Melville's automaton, "The Motor Girl," is proving attractive here; the figure is examined by the audience, and its wonderful mechanism is fully appreciated; the Three Alvarettas do some expert acrobatic work in their speciality comedy act; Newhouse and Ward Trio are clever comedy cyclists; Takese, Japanese magician, does a smart act; Guy and Grahame sing and patter well; Alfredo is a skilled violinist and obtains full appreciation; Dorris and Frances are clever lady simultaneous dancers; Arthur Young, comedian, obtains applause; and pictures conclude.

BROUGHTON.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—Sole P., Messrs. J. P. Moore and Montague Beaudyn.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Beaudyn's company in "Driving a Girl to Destruction." The company includes: Mr. J. Leon Courtville, Mr. Jack Darnley, Mr. Arthur Britton, Mr. A. R. Harper, Mr. Fred M. Hood, Mr. A. A. Tomlin, Mr. Geo. Overs, Mr. Arthur Pringle, Mr. Charles Carren, Miss Nellie Gardner, Miss Marion Keith, Miss Cissie St. Elmo, Miss Phyllis Rae, and Miss Irene Munro.

BURNLEY.

VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. W. C. Horner.—This week (once nightly): Mr. J. F. Elliston presents "Puss in Boots." The company includes: Mr. Jack Volta, Miss Molly McCarthy, Miss Vivian Stafford, Miss Rosie Westgate, Miss Gertie Leno, Little Lucy Linda, Miss Cherry Hardy, Mr. Arthur Mertz, Mr. Will Beanland, Mr. Walter Whittle, Mr. Happy Attwood, Mr. Harry Wilkinson. Matinées, Tuesday and Saturday, at 2 p.m. Next week: The O'Mara Opera Co., Ltd.

EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. W. C. Horner.—This week (twice nightly): Sharp's Tromboneers, Three Bros. Riegel, acrobats; Walker and Lake, patter purveyors; the Irvings, in song and dance scena; Royde and Villiers, in vocal comedy episode; Lily Lonsdale, vocalist; the Vedras, comedy knockabouts; Torcat and D'Aliza, and their trained game roosters; pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—P., Palace Theatre and Hippodrome, Burnley, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Frank Nacnaghten; M., Mr. J. Rintoul.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Montgomery and Jazon present "Robin Hood." The company includes: Messrs. Tom and Neil, Mr. Clarence Turner, Mr. Billy Curzon, Laurie and Elsie, Mr. W. Rochester, Mr. Walter Buxton, Mr. A. Rochester, Miss Maud Beaumont, Miss Ruby Emmerson, Sisters St. Julien, Miss Lily Steele, Miss Lily C. Bell, and Mr. Jack Terrie. T. M., Mr. Fred Coles. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.15.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., Mr. H. G. Dudley-Bennett; B. M., Mr. E. de Hague Body.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Alfred Gray and company in "The Amazons." The company includes: Mr. Rule Pyott, Mr. Alfred Gray, Mr. Campbell Cargill, Mr. Laurence Meade, Mr. Eric Bass, Mr. A. Hardy, Mr. James Clifford, Miss Helen Ingelow, Miss Dorothy Radcliffe, Miss Irene Clarke, Miss V. Malcolm-Barnett, Miss Muriel Locking. The above play is preceded by "For the Sake of Charity." Matinée, Saturday, 2.30. Next week: "The Count of Luxembourg."

BURY (Lancs.).

ROYAL.—P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; Asst. A. M., Mr. S. G. McPherson.—This week: "The Quaker Girl," presented by Mr. George Dance's company. The cast includes: Messrs. Frank H. Crimp, Fred Monti, G. McCloskie, Frederick Hobbs, Henry Adnes, J. Lennox, John Duncan, Glen Owen, William Greene, Misses Hilda Stuart, Doris Dennis, Ivy Harcourt, Jenny Armstrong, May Marshall, Kitty Develin, Lucille Vivien, Lily Green, Cissie Guiver, Hilda Bellamy, Ida Harvey, and Adela Crispin.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES. — P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling.—This week: The Three Vims, club jugglers; Brothers Lawler vocalists and dancers; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; R. M., Mr. Ernest Sims; Mus. D., Mr. John Peel.—This week (twice nightly): The Motley Four, vocalists; Two Britons, athletes; Archie O'Neill, one-legged dancer; Woodward and Page, comedians; and pictures.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Miss Florence Glossop-Harris; G. M., Mr. Max Jerome; R. M., Mr. James Mason.—The first half of this week Mr. Charles Steuart presents "Ann." Cast includes: Mr. Barton White, Mr. Leslie Crowther, Mr. Harry Gribble, Miss Grahame Arthur, Miss Lorna Tuffley, and Miss Dorothy Lesleigh.

BUXTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., The Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd.; M. & S., Mr. F. T. Boucher.—House closed for a week. Next engagement: "The Manxman."

HIPPODROME.—L. & M., Mr. Allan Milton.—This week: Burr and Repper, eccentrics; Lena Bluette, vocalist; René d'Astre, dancer; and pictures. Matinées, Wednesdays and Saturdays.

CAMBRIDGE.

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. Hawkins and Frank; M., Mrs. Hawkins; Mus. D., Mr. Davis.—This week (twice nightly): Connie Mascot, comedienne; Will and Nell, juvenile duo; Harry Souls, comedian; Geo. Adams, baritone; Sharon, musician; Sid Cotteril and company, in sketch; and pictures.

CANTERBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—D., Mr. William Holland.—This week (once nightly, for three nights): Horace Annesley Vachell's company in "Jelf's." The company includes: Gedge Twyman, Arthur McCulloch, Vincent W. Lawson, Edward Ouston, J. Court Harvard, Upton Sackville, Philip Calvey, Ralph Gardner, Clarence Childs, Neville Audus, George T. Roberts, K. Fred Kassulke, C. T. Stevens, Edith Cruikshanks, Grace Denbeigh-Russell, Cynthia Challis, and Dorothy Mason. Next week: "The Witness for the Defence" and "The Thief."

CARDIFF.

NEW THEATRE.—Sole P. & M., Mr. Robert Redford; Mus. D., Mr. A. Mabbett.—This week (once nightly): Miss Hilda Trevelyan and Mr. Edmund Gwenn's company in "Little Miss Llewelyn." T. M., Mr. Sidney Palfrey. The company includes: Mr. Sydney Evans, Mr. Arthur Edgar, Mr. Hugh Robinson, Mr. Harding Thomas, Mr. Edward Jones, Mr. Gareth Hughes, Mr. Owen Price, Mr. Jeffry Hopkins, Mr. Edward Lloyd, Miss Louie Williams, Miss Rachel Jones, Miss Eleanor Daniels, and Miss Evelyn Evans. Preceded by "A Girl in Every Port." Matinée, Saturday, 2.

THEATRE ROYAL.—R. M., Mr. Arthur Beaufort.—This week (once nightly): Morton Powell's company in "Two Little Vagabonds." The company includes: Mr. Victor Rae, Mr. Francis Everard, Mr. Guy Routh, Mr. H. Hesslegrave, Mr. Stanley Field, Mr. Harry Leamar, Mr. Percy Strange, Mr. Francis Amptill, Mr. Timothy Blake, Mr. Johnnie Powell, Mr. Thomas Dyson, Mr. George Garside, Miss Ethel Kay, Miss Mona Hall, Miss Kate Perowne, Miss Carrie Nino, Miss Dora Diehl, Miss Eva Lumley, and Miss Rossie St. John. Matinée, Saturday, 2.15. Next week: "The Babes in the Wood."

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Herbert H. Taylor.—This week (twice nightly): Wee Georgie Wood, in amusing scenas; Cosgrove and Burns, comedy duettists; Lulu Williams, comedienne; Donald McDougall, the lively Scot; Kathleen O'Hanlon, in vocal and dancing scena; Cornalla and Eddie, jugglers; Alexandre and Bertie, aerial gymnasts; Quigley Brothers, comedians and dancers; Vasco, musician; and pictures.

CARLISLE.

PALACE.—P., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. J. D. Askew.—This week (twice nightly): Miss Helena Millais presents "Silver Creek." The company includes: Skete Best, Douglas Cecil, Claude Wilmot, Josh Arundell, Arizona Frank, Deadwood Joe, Kid Stevens, Kentucky Pete, and Helena Millais. Two Canadians, instrumentalists; Masques, singers and posers; Margaret Doris and her dog comedians; Jock McNeil, comedian and dancer; Jessie Broughton and Dennis Creedon, in musical act; Arthur Ferris, in comedy character studies; pictures.

CARMARTHEN.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PALACE. — P., Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. F. E. Orton.—This week: Mahatma, assisted by Prof. Charles N. Steen; and pictures.

CASTLEFORD.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Messrs. Charles Gadsby and Sons; B. M., Councillor Harry Masterman, J.P.—This week (once nightly): Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Draycott present "The Great White Chief." The company includes: Mr. Percy Folliss, Mr. Russell Norrie, Mr. Charles E. Johnson, Mr. Leonard Maitland, Mr. Maurice Love, Mr. Lionel Hardinge, Mr. Fredk. Carr, Mr. Victor Ellerton, Mr. Harry Furniss, Mr. F. Wilson Lowther, Wongatah, Susquenka, Mr. Fred F. Smith, Miss Dorothy Charles, Miss Phyllis Elton, Mrs. Charles Draycott. T. M., Mr. Charles E. Johnson. Next week: "Claudian."

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—P., Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Messrs. Beanland and Emerson.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Harry Burns presents "Robinson Crusoe." The company includes: Miss Victoria Carmen, Miss Vera Rochdale, Miss G. Laune, Miss E. Laune, Miss Florrie May, Miss Florrie Elliston, Miss Dowety Gordon, Messrs. Stewart and Morris, Mr. Thomas Warne, Mr. Arthur Wilson, Mr. Bernard Cox, Messrs. Jones-Yorke and Wilson, Miss Jenny Morby, Miss Bertha Rogers, Mr. H. Griffiths, Mr Will Lindsay, Mr. Arthur Aiston. Matinée, Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.30.

CHATHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; A. M., Mr. Lionel Barnard.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Allan Aynesworth's company, in "Ready Money." T. M., Mr. Arthur Bishop. The company includes: Mr. Mark Blow, Mr. Fred Tooze, Mr. L. Ward Baskcomb, Mr. Archie Selwyn, Mr. Cedric Percival, Mr. Cyril Ashford, Mr. Aubrey Mather, Mr. Wilfred Bailey, Mr. Douglas Payne, Mr. Sidney Lynn, Mr. William Holmes, Mr. Frank Hamilton, Mr. Jack Thomas, Miss Helen Langton, Miss Adelaide Tanner, Miss Dorothea St. Clair Smith, Miss Olivia Glynn. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30.

EMPIRE.—M. D., Messrs. Stoll and Davis; R. M., Mr. Lionel Melville.—This week (twice nightly): Happy Fanny Fields, the jolly Dutch girl; J. H. Scotland, basso and singer; Millin and Arthur, in drawing-room entertainment; Marcus and Gartelle, comedians; Sidney James' Strolling Players; Tom Jones, comedian; J. F. Traynor and company, in "The Devil's Elbow"; and pictures.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—This week (twice nightly): J. F. Ellison presents "In the Future"; Stuart Cleveland presents "A Policeman and a Man"; Hillier and Hayes, in their American reel; Denaro Bros., equilibrists, acrobats, &c.; Gilbert Ferie, comedian; Bob Pender and his Dandies, in "After the Matinée"; and pictures.

CHELMSFORD.

EMPIRE AND HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Clifford Reid.—This week: Violet Shelley and company in sketch, "Clem"; Nella Dene, dancer and comedienne; Jenny Linwood, the canny Scot; Bryden and Currie, and their dog "Bristles," comedy team; and pictures.

CHELTENHAM.

OPERA HOUSE.—G. M., Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—This week (first three nights): Miss Julia Neilson's company in "Sweet Nell of Old Drury." The company includes: Mr. H. Humberston Wright, Mr. Dennis J. Hogan, Mr. Henry Hewitt, Mr. Bellenden Clarke, Mr. Alfred Kendrick, Mr. Arthur Williams, Mr. Arthur Applin, Mr. Leslie Gordon, Mr. James Carter-Edwards, Mr. Alec Rhaden, Mr. Horace Hodges, Mr. J. R. Collins, Mr. George Dudley, Mr. Telford Hughes, Master Edward Dennie, Miss Violet Farebrother, Miss Betty Bellairs, Miss Molly Terraine, Miss Winifred Rae, and Miss Julia Neilson. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday: Miss Winifred Maude's company in "The Mormon and the Maid," including Mr. Arthur L. Read, Mr. A. E. Barrister, Mr. Will White, Mr. Victor du Cane, Mr. Arthur Len Frere, Mr. George Ross, Miss Greta Drury, Miss Florence McInnes, Miss Gipsy Alexander, and Miss Winifred Maude. Next week: Mr. George Dance's "The Quaker Girl."

POOLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—M., Mr. Shakspere Shenton.—This week: Alix Lukos, "Pictures in the fire"; Silent Tate and Amee; and pictures.

THEATRE OF VARIETIES AND CINEMA DE LUXE.—P., Somerald and Co.—This week: The Stelhos and canine wonders; the Tissots; and pictures.

CHESTERFIELD.

HIPPODROME. — P., Hippodromes (Chesterfield), Ltd.; G. M., Mr. F. R. Sargisson. — This week (twice nightly): The Eight Stella Girls, lady troupe of vocalists; Harry Chester, comedian; Watson and Barker, rag-time duettists; Bucher Brothers, gymnasts; Mosford and Hardene, entertainers; Tiny and Mite, vocalists and dancers; Warden Reed and company, in "A Day's Racing," the cast including Mr. F. Warden, Miss Jennie Stephens, and Mr. Frank Gordon; and pictures.

CORPORATION.—P. & M., Corporation Theatre, Ltd.—This week (once nightly and twice on Saturdays): Mons. Ugo, illusionist, in mirthful mysteries; Mons. Ugo also introduces Tom Thumb, the oldest midget. Dora May, vocalist and entertainer; Myrtle Grove, comedienne; the Marvellous Days, telepathists; and pictures.

CLYDEBANK.

GAIETY.—Sole P., Mr. A. E. Pickard; B. M., Mr. W. Sinclair; R. M., Major G. Mitchell.—This week (twice nightly): The Two Niccols; the Express; Rose Embert; Birkett and Jones; Reubin Hill; Corcoran; and pictures. Children's matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

COLCHESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. F. Graham MacDona.—This week (once nightly, and Saturday matinée, 2.30): Florence Glossop-Harris and Frank Cellier's Shakespearean company. On Monday, in "The Taming of the Shrew"; on Tuesday, in "Hamlet"; and on Wednesday, in "Twelfth Night." The company includes: Miss Gertrude Gilbert, Mr. Frederick Keen, Mr. Alexander Young, Miss Doane Alexander, Miss Marjorie Allen, Mr. Marsh Dunn, Mr. Hawksworth Dix, Mr. Christian Morrow, Mr. William Podmore, Mr. Frank Hughes, Mr. Walter Carr, Mr. Frank Pringle, Mr. Maurice Ingram, Miss Doane Gardiner, Mr. Edward Dunstan, Mr. Arthur Layland, Mr. William Podmore, Mr. Frank Cellier, and Miss Sybil Ruskin. On Thursday the company will present "Macbeth," on Friday "The Merry Wives of Windsor," Saturday matinée, "A Midsummer Night's Dream," and on Saturday evening "The Merchant of Venice." T. M., Mr. Max Jerome. Next week: "Man and Superman."

HIPPODROME.—P., The Hippodrome (Colchester), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Walter De Frece; M., Mr. C. Turner Hallet; Mus. D., Mr. Karl Heber.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Sidney Bransgrove and N. C. Slaughter's company, in "Caste." The company includes: Mr. Fletcher Lightfoot, Mr. Charles Groves, Mr. Lionel Howard, Mr. Louis Palgrave, Miss Gertrude Sterroll, Miss Bertha Northam, and Miss Beatrice Marsdene. Next week: "Our Flat."

CONSETT.

ROYAL PICTURE HOUSE.—L., Messrs. Smart and Todd.—This week (twice nightly): Chas. Lloyd and Eva Barwick, singing and comedy duo; the Elvins, duettists; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

NEW TOWN HALL.—This week (twice nightly): The Romanys, in musical act; J. Mack, comedian and mimic; and pictures.

CORK.

OPERA HOUSE.—M., Mr. Frank J. Pitt.—This week (once nightly): Travis Green's production, "Queen of the Redskins." T. M., Mr. Jerrold Heather. The company includes: Mr. Arthur C. Russell, Miss Clara Oakes, Miss Christine Murray, Miss Jessie Campbell, Miss Amy Maitland, Miss Hilda Shirley, Mr. Jerrold Heather, Mr. Horace Booth, Mr. Bert Albert, Mr. Frank Litchfield, Mr. Edward Maples, Mr. Lionel Moore, and Mr. Sam Edwards. Matinée, Saturday, 2.

COVENTRY.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., Mr. Wm. Bennett.—This week: Mr. Edwin T. Hey's company in "Hindle Wakes." The company includes: Messrs. J. Milne Taylor, Hodgson Taylor, Keith Kenneth, and Christopher Steele, Miss Ethel Hardacre, Miss Betty Fairfax, Miss Bessie Bedford, Miss Gladys Lloyd, and Miss Margaret Anderson.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. S. T. Newsome; R. M., Mr. G. E. Wright.—This week: Richd. Nightingale and Walter Bishop and company present "Aladdin." The company includes: Mr. Walter Bishop, Messrs. Walter Barrett, Paul Broadway, Gus Broadway, Arthur and Fred Broadway, George Brooks, Gray and White, Miss Edna Latonne, Gwennie Morgan, Bertha Searl, T. Lawrence, Ada Barker, Maud de Gray, and Mona Wells.

CROOK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M., Mr. Tom Fyall.—This week: Mr. Gus Levaine's pantomime, "Cinderella." The company includes: Mr. Bert Leoni, Mr. Cyril Lane, Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. Alf Hicks, Mr. Will Peters, Mr. Ernie Howard. Miss Fannie Collins, Miss Ruby Mildred, Miss Dolly Brough, Miss Ida Conway, Mr. Tom Williams, Miss Lizzie Levaine.

CROYDON.

GRAND.—M. D., Messrs. D. Adams and E. Archer; Mus. D., Mr. Nation.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Louis Meyer presents "The Glad Eye." The company includes: Lawrence Robbins, Alfred Drayton, Frank Bradley, Arthur Stanley, Leslie Kyle, G. Pedgrift, Stanley Groome, H. W. Hewlett, H. Conyers, Marguerite Cellier, Lilian Christine, Phyliss Stuckey, Mona Meyer. T. M., Mr. Ashton Jarry. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30. Next week: "Find the Woman."

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver; M., Mr. Alfred Powley; Mus. D., Mr. Len Trevor.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Sydney Bransgrove and N. C. Slaughter's company in "The Flag Lieutenant." The company includes: Mr. George Mallett, Mr. Edward Mervyn, Mr. H. L. Bruce, Mr. P. R. Forman, Mr. H. Wolston, Mr. H. Edward, Mr. Oswald Strong, Mr. Olaf Hylton, Mr. George Marsden, Mr. H. Hart, Mr. V. R. C. Moors, Mr. Colin Coupe, Miss Laura Hansen, Miss May Lytton, Miss Gladys Storey, Miss Stella Leigh, and Miss Rosalind Ross. Next week: "Doormats."

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver; M., Mr. Eustace Jay; Mus. D., Mr. Leslie Russell.—This week (twice nightly): The Sisters Lyndon, duettists and dancers; Mark Manners, Hebrew entertainer; the Soho Trio, in song and dance; Hedges Brothers and Jacobsen, American rag-timers; Martinett and Wallace, musical comedians; Fred Hastings, comedian; Ellen Quin, in mysterious novelty; the Bioscope pictures; and Macdonald and Young's company in "The River Girl," including Richard Teasdale, Jane Eyre, Horace Jones, and full chorus.

DARLINGTON.

ROYAL THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. James Bell; A. M., Mr. L. P. Prosser. — This week (twice nightly): Mr. James Kiddie presents "Cinderella." The company includes: Mr. Tom H. Solly, Mr. Arthur Lucan, Mr. Syd Dean, Mr. Bert Beswick, Miss Violet Thorne, Miss Florence Eden, Miss Ena Compton, Miss Violet Kilner, Miss Belle H. Clements, Miss Edith Goodwin, Miss Dolly Andrews, Miss Rhoda Morrella, Miss Ada Waugh, Mr. W. H. Menri, Mr. William Dean, Miss Joan Kent, Miss Lily Sinclair, Miss Amy Hall, Miss Nancy Fowlis, Miss Nellie Burnes, Miss Jessie Weston, Miss May Dallow. T. M., Mr. Thomas Swinton. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30. Next week: "Bella Donna."

HIPPODROME.—L. & M., Signor Pepi; R. M., Mr. Sydney B. Stringer.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Dance presents "A Waltz Dream." The company includes: J. Noel Levland, Fred Lyne, Geo. F. Burdett, John R. Val, Richard Reith, H. E. Neville, H. V. Diamond, Reginald P. Rutter, Mabel Graham, Marion Broom, Rene Glynn, Barbara Lea, Daisy Yule, Nellie Palmer, Mabel St. Clair, Mavis Shaw, Kathleen Brett, Violet Hope, Jessie Bevan. T. M., Mr. Victor Forsythe. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30.

DARWEN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Darwen Theatre Royal, Co.; G. M., Mr. Thomas Baker.—This week (once nightly): F. Marriott Watson and James Ussher's company in "The Face at the Window." The company includes: Messrs. Roy Fortescue, Gilbert Hall, James Weston, Harrison Ainsworth, Vivian A. Garton, Frederick Monckton, Arthur Chivers, Fred Harrison, Arthur Hellier, William Yates, James Harland, Misses Maudie Grayson, Lallah Shelton, and Constance Glenabyn.

PUBLIC HALL.—L., Messrs Riding, Hardcastle, and Rawlinson; M., Mr. J. D. Rawlinson.—This week (twice nightly): Sisters Lillian, harmonising vocalists; Pat O'Connor, comedian and dancer; and pictures.

ALBERT HALL.—P., Messrs. Bradley and Hindle.—This week (twice nightly): Dan Gregory and Lydia, musical acrobats; and pictures.

DENTON.

EMPIRE.—P., & M., Mr. A. Ward, F.R.G.S.; Mus. D., Mr. W. E. Marsden.—This week (once nightly, and matinée Saturday): Nobby, comedian; Texas Bill, in a cowboy scena; and pictures.

DERBY.

GRAND.—P. & M., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; A. M., Mr. C. Denley; Asst. M., Mr. J. B. Torr.—This week: Miss Edith St. Clare's pantomime company in "Robinson Crusoe." The company comprises: Messrs. Carter Arthurs, J. W. Hall, Hymar and Metford, Mark Lupino, Gus Walker, M. Practice, Jas. Rich, A. Cartwright, Misses St. Clare, Adele Prescott, Wynnie Darrel, Victoria Maitland, Millie Coles, Ruby Letton, and the Havana Girls.

PALACE. — L. & M., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; A. M., Mr. T. W. Moyes; Asst. M., Mr. A. J. Knight.—This week: Yuma, the mystery man; Sable Three and Searle, comedy vocalists and dancers; Beesie Cookson, soprano vocalist; Ted Baylis, eccentric comedian; and pictures.

VICTORIA ELECTRIC THEATRE. — This week: Stirling, the human marionette; Fields and Lewis, comedy act; and pictures.

DEVONPORT.

HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. G. E. Prance; Asst. M., Mr. Wm. Baldwin.—Morny Cash, the Lancashire Lad; the Gilberts, in bounding cable act, "Pastimes in Camp"; John Weil; Sims Woolley, comedian; Vickey Delmar, Australian acrobat; Carl Lynn, animal mimic; Hayman and Franklin, Hebrew delineators, in "Cohen's Mistake."

DEWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—This week (twice nightly): Chas. Locke presents "Bonnie Mary." T. M., Mr. Walle Spinner. The company includes: Mr. George Lyttleton-Holyoake, Mr. George Dudley, Mr. John Cullen, Mr. Ernest J. Fare, Mr. Victor T. Raymond, Mr. Walle Spinner, Mr. Charles Myers, Mr. Tom Senior, Mr. William Grante, Mr. Frank Preston, Miss Leah Marlborough, Miss Lissa Young, Miss Alice Morrow, Miss Beatrice Malvern. Next week: "Miss Hook of Holland."

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Asst. M., Mr. E. J. Jackett; Mus. D., Mr. John Rigg.—This week (once nightly): The Amateur Light Operatic and Dramatic Society present "Miss Hook of Holland." The company includes: Mr. R. W. Mallinson, Mr. B. T. Secker, Mr. C. E. Peace, Mr. H. Shaw, Mr. A. Wood, Mr. C. Ward, Mr. L. Day, Mr. E. V. Sparkes, Mr. B. Askham, Mr. J. Gillings, Mr. A. Halmshaw, Mr. W. Kinley, Mr. B. Lockwood, Mr. L. Spivey, Mr. H. Terry, Mr. E. Tolson, Miss M. J. Barker, Miss A. Hincncliffe,

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—M., Mr. George Marsh.—The Three Stewarts perform extremely difficult feats with an easy confidence which astounds the spectator; Chas. Lewis introduces an amount of humour into his smart ventriloquial act; Carlos Menard performs some wonderful imitations on his violin; Hector and Lolletta go through some marvellous balancing; Ethel Dunford sings and plays the piano in a way that completely captivates her audience; Baines and Bewley sing coon ditties in fetching style; and Edie Gorf and Evelyn Bergin both sing and dance with success.

ROUND ROOM ROTUNDA.—P., Mr. John T. Jameson.—A splendid series of pictures, grave and gay, are being shown this week to crowded houses. A special feature is the appearance of Miss Heron-Brown with songs at the piano. She has just completed her pantomime engagement at the Gaiety Theatre, where she scored a great success. Her songs are capitally rendered, and she receives valuable assistance from Miss Murphy's orchestra.

WORLD'S FAIR VARIETIES.—M., Mr. R. J. Goldston; Mus. D., Mr. Sanderson Smith.—This week (once nightly): Bert Groves, eccentric comedian; Harry Wheeler, humorist and speciality dancer; Flo Box, comedienne and dancer; pictures.

BODEGA. — Commercial-buildings, Dame-street; Wines, Spirits, Cigars, &c.; Restaurant, Luncheons, Sandwich Bar; Theatrical papers.

DUMFRIES.

MECHANICS' HALL. — This week: George Dance's company, in "The Chocolate Soldier." The company includes: Miss Alice Coverick, Mr. Villiers Arnold, Miss Maggie Gorman, Miss Flo Hilton, Mr. Harry Cross, and Mr. Chas. Sims.

DUNDEE.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—P., Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham; G. M., Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Licensee and A. M., Mr. Louis Karpe; Mus. D., Mr. H. Everitt Loseby.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Martin Harvey presents—Monday and Tuesday, "The World And His Wife," preceded by "The Conspiracy"; Wednesday and Thursday afternoon and evening, "Œdipus Rex"; Friday and Saturday, "The Breed of the Treshams." The company includes: Messrs. Martin Harvey, Franklin Dyall, George Cooke, Albert E. Raynor, Gordon McLeod, Denholm Muir, Percy Walsh, Sidney Colston, Alfred Ibberson, Eugene Wellesley, Ernest Stidwell, Charles J. Cameron, and the Misses N. De Silva, Mary Rorke, Brenda Gibson, Florence Hunt, etc. T. M., Mr. Frank B. O'Neill. Matinée, Thursday, 3. Next week: Mr. George Edwardes's company, in "The Dancing Mistress."

GAIETY THEATRE.—L., Gaiety Theatre (Dundee), Ltd.; M. D. and Licensee, Mr. Henry C. Cavanah, C.A.; Mus. D., Mr. J. Murphy.—This week (twice nightly): Fred Granville presents "Beauty and the Beast." The company includes: The Misses Jolly Dolly Barrie, Edna Page, Florrie Lucerne, Veda Le Court, Ida May, Gertrude Gascoyne, Annie Terence, Joan Murray, Nellie Ransome, Marie Hilton, Elsie Boxall, Lesley Smith, Rosie Brunswick, Daisy Kepler, Cissie Conroy, Cybil Clare, and Messrs. Sammy Foster, Albert Juan, Alf Page, Bert Grapho, and Ernie Dalton. Specialities by the Six Dapper Dandy Girls, etc. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30. Next week: "The Cattle Thief."

KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—L., Dundee Theatres, Ltd.; Licensee and M., Mr. S. McIntosh; Mus. D., Mr. E. J. Rogers.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Harry M'Kelvie's pantomime, "Mother Hubbard." The company includes: Messrs. Peter Bermingham, J. Randle Wilson, Sam Lavelle, Jack Lavelle, J. S. Stephens, Chas. Jackson, Alf De Vere, the Misses Retta Halkett, Violet Fraser, Renee Walton, Bessie Foley, Edie Haley, Maggie Fraser, Nellie Graham, and the Four Drummer Girls.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—L., B.B. Pictures, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. J. Bennell; A. M., Mr. C. J. McArthy.—This week (twice nightly): Andy Fagan, Irish comedian; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 3.

PAVILION PICTURE AND VARIETY PALACE.—P., Messrs. R. and J. Pennycook; M., Mr. J. Pennycook; Mus. D., Mr. James Walton.—This week (twice nightly): Jack Henri, character comedian; Queenie Austin, comedienne; the Masked Jerado, singer; Melodeon Competition; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

PALACE THEATRE.—L., B.B. Pictures, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. J. Bennell; A. M., Mr. Tom Lunn.—This week (twice nightly): Parks and Price, in musical act; Chorley and Connor, comedians; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

TIVOLI THEATRE.—P. and M., Messrs. Edward and McIntosh; Mus. D., Mr. Wm. Blyth.—This week (twice nightly): Muller Moon, coon singer and dancer; Lizzie Welsh, vocalist; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

NEW HIPPODROME.—P. and M., Mr. A. E. Binnall; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Ruse.—This week (twice nightly): Green and Gordon, in comedy act; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

WEST END CINEMA.—S. and T., Mr. Alex. Mitchell.—This week (twice nightly): Joseph Ogg in illustrated songs; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

EASTBOURNE.

DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—L. & M., Messrs. Murray King and Clarke; Mus. D., Mr. Wilson B. Dibble.—This week (once nightly): Miss Mabel Mannering and company in "Joseph Entangled." The company includes: Mr. James Harcourt, Mr. Alfred Brandon, Mr. Alfred Wiltshire, Mr. Harry Davies, Mr. J. D. Geddes, Mr. L. Parsons, Mr. Charly Stone, Mr. Austin Churton, Mr. Walter Long, Miss Mabel Mannering, Miss Constance, Miss Doris Lairee, and Miss Alice Esden. Next week: "Jelf's."

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Sidney W. Winter; M., Mr. H. Raymond; Mus. D., Mr. W. H. Ash.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Ben Albert, comedian; Barrington, assisted by Miss Isobel Dickens, in "A Composer's Dream"; Hodgson, Lowther and company in comedy sketch, "Left Luggage," company including Mr. Harry Lowther, Miss Hulo Hodgson, and Miss Vera Leslie; the Amio Trio, in military comedy act; Colleen and Emery, in "The Bootblack and the Skivvy"; Tony and Tony, in jumping act; Mr. Tom Pearson, comedian; and pictures.

PIER PAVILION.—M., Mr. George Hayes; Mus. D., Mr. E. W. Peilgen.—This week (once nightly): The Lodge-Percy Repertory company in "Moths," "La Dame aux Camélias," and "Under Two Flags." The company includes: Mr. Lodge-Percy, Mr. T. Weston Fillers, Mr. R. S. Norton, Mr. F. Douglas Howard, Mr. Herbert Syms, Mr. Clavering Craig, Mr. William Irvine, Mr. Reginald Waring, Mr. Fred Kirke, Miss Gladys Carton, Miss Hilary Burleigh, Miss Dorrie Lawrence, and Miss Henrietta Schrier. Next week: Miss Hilda Beverley's company in "The White Girl Slave."

FLORAL HALL.—M. & S., Mr. E. A. Brown.—On Saturday evening grand concert, when Mme. Melba, Herr Backhaus, Mr. Edmund Burke, and party will appear.

ECCLES.

CROWN THEATRE. — P., Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son.—This week (once nightly): The Eccles Amateur Dramatic and Operatic Society present "A Country Girl." The company includes: Mr. Robt. R. Kay, Mr. Alec Speak, Mr. E. Davies, Mr. J. H. Morris, Mr. H. B. Winstanley, Mr. H. Holden, Mr. T. H. Robinson, Mr. W. W. Tomlinson, Mr. E. E. Merrells, Mr. Fred Hartley, Miss Winifred Noar, Miss Marie Kelsall, Miss A. Marshall, Mrs. H. Holden, Miss L. Davies, Miss G. Berry, Miss B. Nuttall, Miss G. Chadwick, Miss G. Harris, Mrs. Robt. R. Kay.

EDINBURGH.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. John Darlison; Mus. D., Mr. E. J. Rogers.—Mr. Franz Lehar's latest musical play, "Gipsy Love," was performed for the first time in Edinburgh last Monday evening by Mr. George Edwardes' company from Daly's Theatre. The audience crowded the house from floor to ceiling, and gave unmistakable proof of the pleasure which a splendid representation of the piece afforded them. The cast includes several artistes who hold a leading position in the interpretation of works of the kind. Mr. Leonard Mackay in the rôle of Jozsi has seldom been seen to more advantage. He made a striking appearance as the Gipsy musician, acting with power and passion, and singing his numbers with magnificent effect. Miss Blanche Tomlin was no less successful as Ilona. She is a young actress who possesses many natural gifts. She acts with remarkable vivacity and grace, and sings in a style that indicates sound training and careful study. Mr. Lauri de Frece's quiet, unforced humour in the part of Dragoin was a fresh example of the artistic work of this able comedian, and deserves the warmest commendation. Mr. Ian Colquhoun, although impersonating a comparatively small part, that of the innkeeper, revealed excellent qualities as an actor, and stirred the audience to enthusiasm by his fine singing. Mr. William Spray as Kajeton acted admirably, and danced with much neatness; and excellent performances were given by Mr. Walter Adams as Jónel and Mr. Grafton Williams as Dimitreanu. Miss Avice Kelham was delightful as Lady Babby, and danced with notable grace; and the Jolan of Miss Daisy Burrell was a bright and clever impersonation. Other parts were capitally played by Miss Grace Wixon, Miss Evelyn Harding, and Miss Berenice Maxwell. Several special dances were executed in exhilarating style by M. J. Kawecki and Miss Florence Arnold, and the chorus and orchestra, under the direction of Herr B. Schoenberger, contributed largely to the success of the performance. The play was beautifully staged.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. Wm. Whitehead; Mus. D., Mr. E. J. Rogers.—The "Sinbad" pantomime has entered the last fortnight of its long and successful run, the popularity of the production being evidently emphasised as the close draws near. Miss Maudie Thornton being unfortunately unable to appear on Monday evening through illness, Miss T. Leonard filled the vacancy to the thorough satisfaction of a kindly and well-filled house. The rest of the speaking and singing characters in the cast continues to revel in their sundry rôles: while, among the dumb show performers, the bright little danseuse, Maisie Barrie, wins favour all round for her several dainty *pas seuls*, and Steve Asher, the elephant, divides with Moke, the donkey, a full share of honours for cleverly expressive business.

KING'S THEATRE.—P., The Edinburgh Construction Co., Ltd.; A. M., Mr. P. L. Howat; Mus. D., Mr. A. Douglas Wilcox.—The annual visit of the Royal Carl Rosa Opera company to this theatre has become one of the February engagements always looked forward to with eagerness and pleasure; and the season—this year extending over three weeks—opened on Monday evening with an excellent performance of Wagner's "Tannhäuser." Mr. E. C. Hedmondt was in his best form as the ill-starred knight, his impersonation, both vocally and dramatically, of a rôle in which he has achieved so many triumphs being applauded to the echo, and resulting in long and loud recalls at the close of the opera. Splendid support was given by the artistic and finished rendering of the parts of Elizabeth and Wolfram by Miss Ina Hill and Mr. Felix Fleischer, as well as by the Venus of Miss Winifred Geverding and the Landgrave of Mr. Arthur Winkworth. The orchestra, under the able direction of Mr. Eugene Goossens, were perfect in their work. "Mignon" was presented very delightfully on Tuesday, with Mesdames Beatrice Miranda, Ina Hill, and Messrs. Gordon Thomas, Arthur Winkworth, and Frederick Clendon filled the chief rôles in "The Magic Flute." "Il Trovatore," "Lohengrin," "Faust," and "The Bohemian Girl" were staged during the latter half of the week; and "The Jewels of the Madonna" is in active preparation for production during the concluding week of the company's Edinburgh season.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. T. Aynsley Cook; Mus. D., Mr. James Howarth.—This week's bill has been well varied, and contained several outstanding items. Ernest Shand, with a good record for smartness and originality as a sound and humorous comedian, secured a hearty reception; and Sammy Shields scored as usual, with his popular football monologue. Excellent entertainment was provided by a Scotch comedy sketch, entitled "The Best Man," new to Edinburgh, and cleverly played by the Houston Trio, comprising Miss Lizzie Houston, Mr. James Houston, and Mr. Austin Kerr. Camp and Critic's farcical absurdity, "Waxworks," also proved accentable enough; and a diverting interlude, "The Comedian and the Call-boy," was well presented by Peter and Potts. The Astis Troupe of female acrobats performed some astonishing gymnastic feats; there were elements of novelty in the startling illusions produced by the Cowboy Jupiters; the Four Rays displayed great skill and daintiness as dancers; and the singing and dancing of Park's Eton Boys and Girton Girls received a full measure of approval.

EXETER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Messrs. Exeter Theatre Co., Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—This week (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, one nightly): Mr. Cyril Maude presents "Bunty Pulls the Strings." The company includes: Mr. Colin M. Johnston, Mr. Lowe Mackenzie, Mr. Edward Lynton, Mr. A. P. Roxburgh, Mr. James Duncan, Miss Madge Ross, Miss Clara Yates, Miss Stella Campbell, Miss Adah Dick, Miss Evelyn Ormonde. Preceded by "The Price of Coal." T. M., Mr. Walter D. Nicoll. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, farewell visit of Forbes-Robertson and Gertrude Elliott. Thursday, "The Light That Failed"; Friday (matinée), "Mice and Men"; Friday (night), "The Passing of the Third-Floor Back"; Saturday, "Hamlet."

FALKIRK.

GRAND THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. R. C. Buchanan; R. M., Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—This week: Mr. Herbert Ralland's company presents "The Girl in the Train." The company includes: Misses Ethel Oliver, Dagmar Dargue, Winnie Hall, Rosa Burchell, and Messrs. Bay Russell, Percy Watson, F. W. Bowes, C. F. Cooke, Stafford Dickens, Griffin Campion, Cecil Moylan, and Philip Cooper.

ELECTRIC THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. J. E. Atkinson.—This week: The Sauterean Wonders, comedy artistes; Henri Bekker, conjurer; Monty McVean, Scotch comedian; and Rodgers and Keezing, the Hebrew comedians; and pictures.

FERNDALE.

WORKMEN'S HALL.—M., Mr. David Williams.—This week (once nightly, and Saturday matinée, 3): Miss Florrie Gallimore; Ned Edwards, comedian; and pictures.

FOLKESTONE.

PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—M., Mr. H. B. Hampton; Mus. D., Mr. George Cooper.—This week (once nightly), Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday: Messrs. J. Forbes Knowles and Harry Masterman present "Nick Carter, Detective." The company includes: Mr. Charles Burdon, Miss Violet Somerville, Little Nellie Masterson, Mr. Walter Clarke, Mr. William Burgess, Mr. Roger Joyner, Mr. Edward Wishaw, Mr. Frank Thompson, Miss Ella Vane, Mr. Harry C. Momber, Miss Nellie Shirley, Miss Nancy Lawrence, Mr. Gerald Henshaw, Mr. G. Harris, Mr. Alfred Sinclair, Miss Nellie Waddington, Miss F. Kenyon, and Mr. A. W. Jones. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday (once nightly): Messrs. Rutland Barrington and Eustace Burnaby present "Ways and Means." Preceded by "Beauty and Diplomacy." T. M., Mr. Wilfred H. Simpson. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30. Next week: "The Amazons" and "Charley's Aunt."

GAINSBOROUGH.

KING'S THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. Arthur Carlton; R. M., Mr. Albert J. Lewis.—This week (once nightly): Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, Mr. George Dance presents "The Quaker Girl." The company includes: Jack Gray, Ken Worth, Robert Dunn, Charles Cautley, Monti Macdonald, James Hughes, Nelson White, R. Gladstone, Louis Wigley, Rita Everard, Violet Gower, Violet Willard, Elsie Skillings, Doris Gray, Rosalie Payne, Rene Buckingham, Ruby Bradfield, Blanche Travis, Trixie Andrews, Nellie Hay, and Elfie Vincent. T. M., Mr. W. L. Clement. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30.

GATESHEAD.

METROPOLE.—P., the Newcastle and Gateshead Theatres, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. E. C. Howitt.—This week (twice nightly and matinée Saturday, 2.30): Mr. Charles Elderton's "Aladdin." The company includes: Mr. Henry Eglington, Miss Agnes Collier, Miss Florence Curran, Miss Alice Raymond, Miss Minnie Terry, Miss Bella Terry, Miss Lillie Fuller, Miss Annie Webster, Mr. Horace Wyatt, Mr. Herbert Fuller, Mr. George Delamere, Brothers Granville, Mr. Harry Levaine, Mr. Frank Moore. Next week: "When Woman Hates."

KING'S.—G. M., Mr. R. F. Douthwaite; A. M., Mr. M. S. Hammond.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Fred J. Little presents "Aladdin." The company includes: Miss Lillie Langtry, Mr. C. D. Reekie, Mr. Charles B. Hargraves, Staffo, Mr. Leslie Digby, Messrs. Charlie and Will Boriski, Mr. Alf Brookes, Miss Lillian de Venny, Miss Edie Anderson, Miss Lola Estelle, Miss Connie Moore, Miss M. Seymour, Mr. Pat Nash, &c. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30. T. M., Mr. Frank Ayrton. Next week: "Dick Whittington."

PALACE THEATRE.—P., Messrs. Black Bros.; G. M., Mr. A. Roberton, jun.—This week (twice nightly): Franco Piper, banjo expert; Shiftello, comedian; Roland Trio, in comedy act, entitled "Drowsy Town"; and pictures.

SHIPCOTE HALL.—P., Messrs. Reed Brown and Co.; G. M., Mr. John Fenwick.—This week (twice nightly): Miss Florrie Beaumont, contralto; and pictures.

GLASGOW.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. Harry F. Ashton.—"The House That Jack Built" is still attracting large audiences. Gwladys Soman as Jack, Daisy Yates as Charity, Ida Valli as Sue, and Fred Barnes as the Prince, sing and dance themselves into the good graces of their patrons. Billy Merson, Joe Nightingale, Leonard Barry, and W. Fullbrook supply the comedy element, the appreciation of which by the younger element can be heard all over the house. Billy Merson's burlesques hit the popular taste, being simple but humorous and effective. Not the least interesting features of the production are the Eight Russell Girls and Messrs. Hess and Lisbon in a skating speciality in the Ice Carnival. Scenery and dresses are of the best, while near the end an illuminated fountain display, by Mons. Maurin, is an effective piece of colour work.

KING'S.—"Princess Caprice."

ROYALTY. — Closed, preparing for dramatic season.

GRAND.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; R. M., Mr. H. J. Crane.—Though now the last week of the panto., excellent audiences continue to emphasise the success of "Mother Hubbard." Daisy Dormer and Mabel Medrow's singing and dancing are particularly pleasing, while Rosie Chandler and Dollie Payne are also specially favoured. The comedians, headed by Harry Conlin, Jay Laurier, Charley Harvey, the Brothers Griffiths, and George Conquest, are out for laughter and find it. The staging and dresses are a special feature of the production.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S. — P., Mr. Rich Waldon; A. M., Mr. Hugh Murdoch; Mus. D., Mr. Henri Vollmer.—The Princess's pantomime, "Goody Two Shoes," still continues to go on with a merry swing, and crowds eager for amusement fill the houses nightly. Mr. Dan Whitley as Dan, Mr. Billy Walters as Tam the Postie, Mr. Cecil Rutland and Mr. Stanley Damerell as Ben Lomond, and Mid Guy respectively, are the chief funmakers; they are clever artistes, and fully deserve the hearty reception they receive. As Goody Two Shoes, Miss Jennie Hartley is really charming. Miss Kitty Dale makes an admirable principal boy, playing the part of Harry with great success.

METROPOLE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Arthur Jefferson; A. M., Mr. Harry C. Edwin.—Miss Dot Stephens and company make a welcome re-appearance here this week in "A Child of the Streets." Miss Dot Stephens is very impressive, her charming conception of Doris Graham being perfect in every detail, while her vocal items are rendered in the most approved style; admirable support is given by Miss Olga B. Hazelwood, her brilliant presentation of Gertrude Graham bringing out histrionic qualities of a high standard. Mr. George Handel excels in his interpretation of Sir John Graham (the wealthy Scotch laird), while as Mr. Robert Wallace (head keeper) Mr. Valmour Shain gives a strong and vigorous representation. The sinister parts are admirably sustained by Mr. Arthur Curzen as Lawrence Craigie and Miss Lily Annesley as Lorna Carstair. Mr. George H. Hazlehurst has a difficult part as Ezra Scroggie, in which he acquits himself with great credit. Interspersed throughout are several highly diverting interludes, for which Miss Polly Denville as Selino Haddock and Mr. Hugh Brady as Pomeroy Smith are responsible, their side-lights on domestic life causing roars of laughter. Lieutenant Jack Ainsley and Oscar Van Dam are in the capable hands of Mr. Norman H. Tracey and Mr. John Errol respectively, while a very successful appearance as Little Doris in act I. is made by Little Cora Handel. The drama is excellently staged.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M., Mr. G. Rhodes Parry; A. M., Mr. R. D. Harvey; Mus. D., Mr. W. B. Moore.—Mme. Anna Eva Fay gives a most interesting and mystifying performance, in the course of which the most extraordinary manifestations occur: La Pia, the famous art dancer, meets with a great reception—her "Spirit of the Waves" is a marvel of skill and colour; Marie Kendal's popularity is maintained, and her latest, "The Turkey trot" has a capital go; the accompanying dance is beyond praise. Others here are Mabel Sinclair, the lady ventriloquist; the Eight Welsh Miners, in an artistic vocal act; France and Stewart, in a comedy sketch, "The Little Puritan"; the Stowe Brothers, in a very skilful head and hand balancing act; and Steve M'Carthy, who excels in song and dance.

PAVILION, LTD.—M., Mr. Evan Good; Mus. D., Mr. R. F. Steele.—The star turn here is the American hypnotist and humorist, Pauline, who gives a pleasant and enjoyable performance: Rinaldo, the violinist, again shows his wonderful dexterity and versatility; the Seven Ko-te-ichis, the Japanese conjurers, etc., have a most bewildering array of tricks; the Howard and Collinson Troupe cause much fun with their farcical act: Ina Lorimer's Scotch turn is much enjoyed; David Fuller, baritone vocalist; Mr. Jelf, mimic; and Wyllie, comedy musician, complete an excellent entertainment.

PALACE. — P., Mr. Rich Waldon; G. M., Mr. Harry McKelvie; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur Fellowes.—Menetekel, the mystery of two hemispheres, in "The Writing Ball," presented by Wm. Berol, quite mystifies the audience; Jordan and Harvey, Hebrew comedians, continue first favourites; the amazing wire act by the Poncherry Troupe is heartily enjoyed; a good sketch is given by A. W. B. Kingston and company, entitled "Soutar Johnny"; and the Letines excel as acrobats. A clever performance is submitted by Henry and Liezel, eccentrics; while the songs rendered by Nellie Walton, the singing mill lass, are much applauded; clever and refined acrobatic equilibristic novelty is performed by King Luis and Partner; and the Palace Pictures are much enjoyed.

COLISEUM.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Arthur E. Barnes.—After a very successful three weeks' visit, Messrs. Harry Day and Edward Lauri's pantomime, "Dick Whittington," finishes here to-night. Miss May Moore Duprez as Gretchen and Mr. Harry Weldon as Idle Jack are the bright particular stars of the production, while the love interest is attractively sustained by Miss Wilmot Karkeek in the part of Dick and Miss Alice Nixon as Alice; the rôle of Fitzwarren is ably filled by Mr. J. Salter; an amusing Captain and Mate are found in the Brothers Bass; the Cat is smartly represented by Mr. Jack Tucker; the Fairy and the Demon have capable exponents in Miss Marjorie Gordon and Mr. Dudley Walton; and clever work is done by Mr. Jack Bland (Emperor) and Miss Josephine Ellis (Princess).

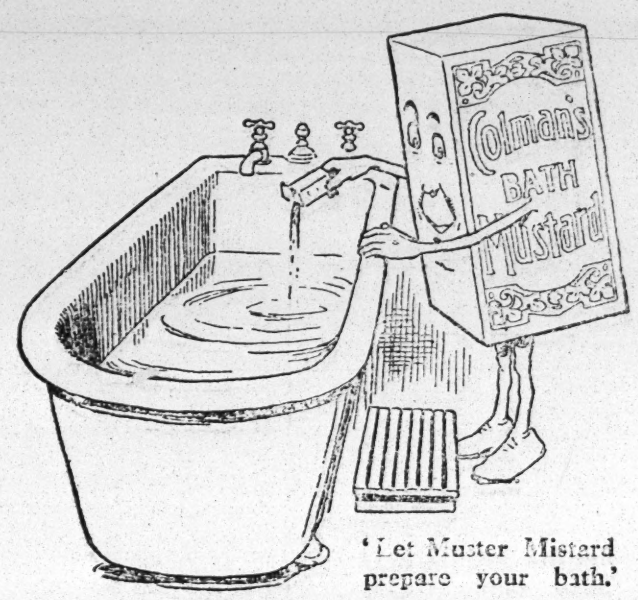
ALHAMBRA, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Alfred Butt; M., Mr. Edward Foster; Mus. D., Mr. Howard Croft.—For the visit of Mr. and Mrs. Graham Moffat with their company in "A Scrape o' the Pen," the Alhambra resumes the rule of one performance nightly. A crowded and enthusiastic audience welcomed these Glasgow players back after their London successes, and followed with intense interest the unfolding of the clever story of the play. With Mr. and Mrs. Graham Moffat as Mattha and Leezie Inglis, the leading parts could not, of course, be better played, and the portrayal of this lovable old couple, with their sarcastic remarks about each other to conceal their underlying affection, is lifelike in its fidelity. Miss Jean Aylwin also makes a notable success as Mrs. Menzies, and in this part is afforded an opportunity of showing her ability in a manner that her previous appearances in musical comedy scarcely foreshadowed. Mr. Watson Hume is the jolly, easy-going farmer to the life, and as Hugh Menzies is of immense value to the cast. Mr. Joseph Barker is very good indeed as the bridegroom, Geordie Pow; and his sweetheart, Beenie Scott, is cleverly acted by Miss M. Balvaird Hewitt. A consistent piece of character acting is contributed by Miss Margaret Noble as the Highland servant girl, Flora M'Gilp, and her accent, combined with the witty dialogue of the part, makes a most amusing mixture. Mr. Robert Purdie as Alec Inglis plays well; and as the professional mourner, Peter Dalkeith, Mr. Will Jaxone acts skilfully, and, in addition, stage manages the play with success. Miss Agnes Miller as an English visitor, and Miss Millicent Evans as Little Effie help in the general artistic effect. "Till the Bells Ring" was given in front, and in this Mr. Walter Roy, Mr. Watson Hume, and Miss Agnes Lowson were specially good.

LYCEUM.—P., Lyceum (Govan), Ltd.; R. M., Mr. J. H. Oakden.—A new sketch, entitled "The Gun Fighter," is presented by Frank F. Street. The artistes are really clever, and the sketch is a decided success. A sensational novelty entertainment given by Swan's alligators meets with great approval. The Four Royal Scots are entertaining in their novel musical act; a vocalist of ability is Anita Wayman; and very clever are the Letines in their eccentric acrobatic act. Ted Mevall pleases as a grotesque comedian, skater and dancer; while the Five Greenlees take well in their scena, "On a Holiday."

OLYMPIA.—L. and M., Messrs. de Frece and Edelsten, Ltd.; M., Mr. John McMillan; Mus. D., Mr. Lex Holmes.—This week another touring pantomime reaches here, "Sinbad the Sailor" being staged, with a clever cast, headed by Miss Ethel Ra-Leslie as the adventurous Sinbad. Miss Mildred Parr is an attractive Lovilda, and Miss Mabel Kempton makes a fetching Princess Zaidee. Misses Elsie and Saye Robertson, as Selim and Hettie, sing and dance well. Humour is plentifully supplied by Mr. Harry Morgan as Tinbad, Mr. Jimmy Merrylees as Captain Cook, Mr. Sam Ello as Mrs. Sinbad, and Messrs. Newco and Sullo as the Mate and Bo'sun, Mr. Albert E. Mann as the Old Man of the Sea, and Miss Agnes Bond as Lustra, represent the evil and the good geniuses of the story. Mr. Donald Keir is well suited as Ali Loofah, the Emperor. The panto. is staged with picturesque effect, clever dancing is contributed by the Six Cherry Girls, and a number of specialities are introduced in the palace scene.

SAVOY, LTD.—L., Lillie Williams, Ltd.; M., Mr. H. Godwin; Mus. D., Mr. John W. Hatton.—Durward Lely and John Clyde, in "The Bonnie Brier Bush," act with true characteristic style and are ably assisted by Mrs. Durward Lely. Fields and Fields, clever comedy couple; Jeanie McBride, chic juvenile Scotch comedienne; the Incognitas, an up-to-date comedy quartette; Marie Rose, male impersonator; Roudelle Billington, violinist; Les Lazulis, comedy wire act; Bonnie Hilda Mostyn, comedienne; Borie, juggler; Frame Flint, Scotch comedian; Meely and Laing, comedy couple; Ben Jackson, banjoist; Langley and Maguire, in song scena; Lily Unett, comedienne; the Dainty Danes, duettists; and Bert Barnes, comedian, all contribute agreeably.

PRINGLE'S, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Ralph Pringle; R. M., Mr. George Paulton; Mus. D., Mr. William Milne.—The Two Huntlys, clever and amusing



'Let Muster Mistard prepare your bath.'

The exhilaration that follows a bath into which has been put some mustard is a lasting exhilaration.

First the skin feels the delightfully soft water which the mustard makes. Then the muscles "realise" the restfulness which is brought them by the peculiar action set up by the mustard and water together. Finally, the nerves are so soothed and rested that the feeling of comfort and re-invigorated circulation which follows a mustard bath cannot be compared with anything else.

Any Colman's Mustard will do, but many shops sell Colman's Bath Mustard, specially put up in those handy cartons—each one containing just enough mustard for a bath.

If the table mustard is used, you will find it easier to mix the mustard first with cold water before putting it into the bath. About three tablespoonfuls makes a glorious bath.

The action of mustard when combined with water is an extraordinary one. Its effect is not upon the skin alone, but upon the muscles, nerves and vital organs of the body, because of the direct "vascular communication" between the blood vessels of the skin and the vital organs.

Let "Muster Mistard" prepare your bath for you—whether morning or night, hot or cold. As a preventer of chills, and as a banisher of aches and pains, a hot mustard bath is looked upon as almost infallible by many thousands of people throughout the world, to whom the mustard bath habit is almost second nature. Have you Colman's Mustard in the house?

comedy duo, are much in evidence; Will Warren, a baritone, sings with taste and finish; and the pictures are of outstanding merit.

HENGLER'S, LTD.—M. D., Mr. A. Hengler; G. M., Mr. Harry Milne.—The success of the sensational spectacle, "The Balkans," has been phenomenal here, and as this is the last week there is a rush of patrons to view the play, and extra matinées have been found necessary. The variety part of the entertainment is in good hands, and the Three Wolkens, George Madigan's Dogs, and Dolon and Dartry all give popular turns, while in the circus items Herr Freyman, with his Soldier Horse, the Hubert Cooke Trio, the White Rider, Mr. and Mme. Corradini, and the clever clowns, Doodles and Pimple, combine to make a capital programme.

STAR, PARTICK.—P., Star Picture and Vaudeville Co., Ltd.—R. M., Mr. George Chandos.—The principal attraction at this hall is R. S. Beresford and Co., in their sketch. "The Sheriff and the Outlaw." Harry Earle, the Sheriff, is well acted by R. S. Beresford. Miss Esmai Ellys and Miss Florence Russell as Rosy Graham, Harry's fiancée, and Nelly Alvarez, the Outlaw, show fine acting abilities. The MacLeod Trio, as singers, dancers, and musicians, are excellent. Gallagher and West are a quaint duo of comedians, and their songs and jokes are far above the average.

PANOPTICON.—Sole P. & D., Mr. A. E. Pickard; G. M., Mr. W. Sinclair.—This week (four times daily): Mlle. De Grayham's Performing animals; Dora Hendri, ballad vocalist; Charlie Dinkey, comedy juggler; pictures.

CASINO.—Sole P., Mr. A. E. Pickard; R. M., Mr. H. C. Glenroy; S., Mr. Guy E. Dunning.—This week (twice nightly): The Miller Trio, in musical and vocal act; Hart and Hall; Flo Cameron, comedienne; George Bernard, actor-vocalist; pictures.

IBROX PICTURE PALACE.—Sole P., Mr. A. E. Pickard; R. M., Mr. W. Sowerby.—This week (once nightly): Grant and Walker, duettists; Geo. Maston, comedian and mimic; Kitty Yorke, comedienne and dancer; pictures. Children's matinée, Saturday, at 2 o'clock.

GLOSSOP.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P. & M., Mr. Sydney Spenser; A. M. and Mus. D., Mr. W. E. Cottrill.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Percy Williams presents "The Fatal Wedding." The company includes: Messrs. Frank Liston, Gerald Kennedy, Harry M. Vernon, J. K. Woods, Frank Ashley, J. Newton, Miss Maude Warburton, Miss Beatrice Shirley, Miss Blanche Huber, Baby Marjorie Aubrey, Misses Edith Dews, Hilda May, Daisy Trenchard, Dollie Aubrey, Winnie Keith, Gladys Kelly, Sisters May, Misses Marie Leonard, Doris Dupre, May Aubrey, Daisy Taylor Ivy Sanders, and Masters Leonard Wricks and Tom Grice. Matinée, Saturday.

GLOUCESTER.

PALACE.—L. & G. M., Mr. Will Smithson; R. M., Mr. R. T. Rea.—This week (once nightly, matinée, Saturday, 2.30): Messrs. Robert Macdonald and T. B. Young will present "The Dollar Princess." The company includes: Mr. Charles Midgley, Mr. Norman Bowers, Mr. Austin Green, Mr. Frank Duirs, Mr. Earnest Peirce, Mr. Bert Darrell, Mr. Huntley Gifford, Mr. Donald Gray, Mr. Francis Sawyer, Mr. John Bernard, Mr. Derick Knowles, Miss Margaret Carter, Miss Iris Beresford, Miss Tina Lincoln, Miss Phyllis Desmond, Miss May Lashbrooke, Miss Dorothy Stafford, Miss Mina Goss, Miss Gracie Freeman, Miss Marion Ridding, Miss Margaret Pitts, Miss Marjorie Elliott, Miss Muriel Hynes, Miss Dorothy King, and Miss Wallace-Reville. T. M., Mr. W. A. Seymour. Next week: "The Woman He Wanted."

KING'S HALL.—L., Messrs. Poole's Theatres, Ltd.—This week: Herbert Lloyd and company, in "Discordia"; Fielding and Hull, entertainers; and pictures.

GRANTHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P. & M., Mr. J. A. Campbell; A. M., Mr. W. Marshall; Mus. D., Mr. Ernest Wolfe.—This week (once nightly, for three nights): Mr. Geo. Dance's company in "The Quaker Girl." The company includes: Vivienne Gower, Violet Willard, Elsie Skillings, Doris Gray, Rosalie Payne, Rene Buckingham, Ruby Bradfield, Blanche Travis, Trixie Andrew, Nellie Hay, Elfie Vincent, Jack Gray, Ken Worth, Robert Dunn, Charles Cautley, Monti MacDonald, James Hughes, Nelson White, R. Gladstone, Louis Wigley, and Rita Everard.

GREAT YARMOUTH.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Sole P., Mr. W. H. Nightingale; A. M., Mr. H. Furnivall.—This week: Mr. C. Adolf Seebold presents "Little Red Riding Hood." The company includes: Miss Gracie Rosslyn, Miss Rose Charles, Miss Vesta Brownie, Miss Olive Desmond, Mr. Harry Walshe, Mr. Fred Walker, Mr. George Ritchie, Mr. George Farnley, Mr. Sam Ferris, Mr. Harry Phillips, Miss Elaine Rosslyn, Miss Sylvia Rosslyn, Mr. Dai Griffiths, Miss May Portsmouth, Miss Freda Butler, etc.

GEM.—M. D., Mr. E. Barr.—This week: Fred Eustace and company, in "Our Curate"; Will Harmony; Sisters Tudor; Mary Glyn and company in "On Leave"; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—Sole P. & D., Mr. George Gilbert.—This week: Fergus Leslie and Miss Phyllis Morland, in "The Lie"; the Rollettes; Chris Baker; Ada Gatley; Carlton and Hill; and pictures.

GREENOCK.

KING'S THEATRE.—P. & M., Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—This week (twice nightly): Dr. Walford Bodie; Wee Mona Burns, comedienne; Stave, musical cannibal; Dolly Robson, vocalist; Miss Emily Vine, concertinist; Albert E. Bodie; Miss Evelyn De-Lara, soprano; Laird's Highland Party. Next week: "The Girl in the Picture."

GUERNSEY.

THEATRE ST. JULIAN'S.—Joint M., Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; R. M., Mr. George A. Deighton.—This week: Wee Dot and Doris, juvenile entertainers; and the Three Connor Girls, in singing and club display. Pictures nightly at 8. Matinée, Saturday, at 3.

GUILDFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., County and Borough Halls Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Arthur Whitworth.—This week (twice nightly): Leoni Clarke, with his 200 animals; Adèle Levey, Mignion and Frasettis, Chas. Merry, Edgar Curtis, Imperial Troupe of Cyclists, and pictures.

HALIFAX.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. Wm. Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; Mus. D., Mr. Edwin James.—Mr. Alban B. Limpus's company, in "Bella Donna." The company includes: E. W. Thomas, Dudley Stewart, W. J. Butler, Hugh Rene, H. Gumpert, Ernest Watts-Tye, Douglas Lewis, Alfred McMahon, Horace Broad, Frank Kidger, Agnes Knights, Flora Haydon, and Georgina Wynter. Next week: Mr. George Dance's company in "The Hope."

GRAND.—M. D., Mr. Wm. Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. Joe Hinton.—Mr. Charles Locke's company in "A Blind Girl's Love." The company includes: Mr. Elton Morgan, Miss Flo Norman, Mr. Edwin Turner, Mr. Erne Turner, Mr. Artie Francis, Mr. George Steel, Mr. Fred Morris, Miss Adeline Raby, Miss Hettie Senior, Miss Isa Steel, and Little Edna.

PALACE.—M. D., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. Edgar O. Waller; Mus. D., Mr. Ernest A. Widdup.—This week: Chas. W. and John R. Poole's panoramic scena, "The Loss of the Titanic"; That Boy Pam, rag-time singer and dancer; Cavallotti Brothers; Rowland, juggler; Conway George, impressionist; Ross and Lewis, Yankee Doodle duo; and Jimmy Athlone.

HANLEY.

ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; M., Mr. Frank Powis.—This week: Mr. George Dance's company, in "The Whip." The company includes: Messrs. W. Kershaw, F. Morgan, J. G. Jordon, L. Tessier, Eric Hudson, E. Darrell, D. Campbell, B. Threadgift, F. G. Vyvyan, and Misses Mary Thorne, Ruth Henton, Madge Girdlestone, and Maisie Stuart.

GRAND.—M. D., Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; M., Mr. F. Dudman Bromwich.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. H. Hamilton Stewart, Oliver Crombie, Basil Mitchell, H. Littlejohn, Frank H. Moor, John Richter, Arnold Raper, John Belton, C. Allister, F. C. Brook, Rupert Pinder, S. Barnet, William Wilson, Richard Minton, Harry Tinsley, Master James Hall, Misses Queenie Stanley, Maisie Richardson, Edith Vogue, and A. Bruce-Joy.

HIPPODROME.—P. & M., Mr. W. Stansfield.—This week (once nightly): Three Dainty Dots, in "Sweethearts"; Miller Sutcliffe's, depicting Scottish sports and pastimes; and pictures.

ILKESTON.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PICTUREDROME. — P., Mr. Leon Vint; R. M., Mr. Aubrey Allen.—This week: Josh Clifton's Acrobats; the Six Ceylons, in "A Dream in an Opium Den"; Harry Witmark, comedian and parody singer; and pictures.

IPSWICH.

LYCEUM.—P., The Ipswich Lyceum, Ltd.; L., Messrs. Murray King, Clarke, and W. H. Savory; R. M., Mr. Cecil P. Blumberg; Mus. D., Mr. H. Lewin Taylor.—This week (once nightly and matinée on Saturday): Mr. Charles Harrington's company in "Uncle Tom's Cabin." The company includes Messrs. J. H. Boehm, Raymond Wallace, Bertram Howard, Percival Young, John Gibson, Edward Leroy, H. Jenkins, W. Eversleigh, A. Aston Roe, E. Roberts, Jack Black, A. Lewis, J. Lewis, J. Martin, J. Newton, Misses Hero Hathaway, Florence Tyler, E. Stuart-Graham, Annie Watson, Ethel Masterson, and Stella Harrington. Next week: Mr. Arthur Bourchier presents "Improper Peter."

HIPPODROME.—Sole P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; R. M., Mr. E. Gordon Bostock.—This week: Miss Ethel Ward and company in "Her Madcap Majesty"; also Cyrus Dare, mimic; Miss Viru Bardon, rag-time comedienne; the white beauty, "Mascot," the educated horse; Billy Marsdon, comedian; Edward Marris's comedy sketch, "Faking the Film"; and pictures.

JARROW.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. and M., Mr. Hugh Roberts; A. M. and S., Mr. T. Edward Evans.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. C. Watson Mill presents "The Night Side of London." The company includes: Mr. Terrance Byron, Mr. Alfred Maurice, Mr. E. Hall Eldon, Mr. Henry Earlsmere, Mr. Leslie Lingham, Mr. Frankis Cavanah, Mr. James Hussey, Mr. C. W. Spencer, Mr. P. Oscaren, Mr. T. Smithby, Mr. Stephen Gibson, Mr. Peter Sturgess, Miss L. Moure, Miss Marie E. Cotton, Miss Josephine Olga, Miss M. Kitts, Miss Kitty Melville, Miss Vera Grafton, Miss Madge Heyton, and Miss Mary Mallalieu. T. M., Mr. Alfred Maurice. Next week: "Cinderella."

JERSEY.

OPERA HOUSE.—L., The Jersey and Guernsey Amusements Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Stanley Hope.—This week (once nightly): The Three Rochesters, in drawing-room act; Marco, the man of mystery; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

KETTERING.

COLISEUM.—P., Messrs. Thompson Bros.; M., Mr. A. Thompson.—This week: The Six Little Lancashire Lasses; Constance Cassell, soprano; Preston Holmes; the Three Gelins, acrobats; and pictures.

PALACE.—P., The Palace Theatres Co., Ltd.; M., Mr. J. G. Covington.—This week: Louise Taylor's company, in "The Adder's Tooth"; Dora Hawtry, comedienne; the Len-Hard Trio, in "The Burglar's Surprise"; and pictures.

KILMARNOCK.

KING'S THEATRE.—L., Lillie Williams and Co.; M., Mr. Thomas Rodger.—This week: Mr. Gordon Gray's company appears in the pantomime, "Babes in the Wood." The company includes: The Brothers Armstrong, Messrs. Wallace and Lorne, the Two Perfections, and Misses Millie Denham, Connie Gordon, Jeannie Alibert, Ethel Spencer, Nellie Dean. Mus. D., Mr. T. R. Wyatt.

PALACE.—L. & M., Mr. John Cummings.—This week (Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday): Miss Annie Stewart, vocalist; Joval and York, comedians; J. A. Wilson, with his dog "Towser"; and pictures. On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday: Mr. Cyril Maude's company in "Bunty Pulls the Strings."

KING'S LYNN.

NEW ROYAL THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. B. Pareezer; R. M., Mr. Reginald Pareezer; Mus. Con., Mr. Jasper J. Wright.—For three nights and a matinée Mr. George Dance's company appeared in "The Quaker Girl." The company included: Messrs. Jack Gray, Ken Worth, Robert Dunn, Charles Cantley, M. Macdonald, J. Hughes, Nelson White, R. Gladstone, Louis Wigley, Misses Rita Everard, V. Gower, Violet Willard, Elsie Skillings, Doris Gray, R. Payne, R. Buckingham, R. Bradfield, B. Travis, T. Andrews, N. Hay, and Elfie Vincent.

LANCASTER.

GRAND THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. Stanley Rogers.; A. M., Mr. Tom Braithwaite; Mus. D., Mr. J. Wells-Knight.—This week (once nightly): On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, "His House in Order." Company includes: Mr. Arthur Ryleston, Mr. Bernard Gold, Miss Gladys Gaunt, Miss Shirley Dalton, Miss Margaret Davidge, Miss Gwendolyne Carlisle, Mr. Frank Fenton, Mr. R. Noble, Miss Rene Mowbray, Mr. Archer Brown, Mr. David Kempe, Mr. Ashmore Vincent, and Mr. Herbert J. Walton. On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, "The Chocolate Soldier." Company includes: Mr. Villiers Arnold, Miss Florence Hylton, Miss Maggie Gorman, Mr. Walter Williams, Mr. Harry Barnette, Mr. G. Collings, Mr. F. C. Page, Miss D. E. Pritchard, Miss Gladys Gregory, Mr. W. A. Harris, Mr. C. W. Hoddy, Miss Carrie Scott, Mr. Harry Crosse, Mr. Charles Sims, and Miss Alice Coverick. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30. Next week: "Hindle Wakes."

HIPPODROME.—P. & M., Mr. John Porter.—This week (twice nightly): Jack and Jennie, in "Chips of the Old Block"; Harrigan and Hoit, in "Reports"; Chas. J. Johnson; Miss Ivy Stephens, vocalist and dancer; the Three Flying Winskills; and pictures.

LEAMINGTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & D., Mr. C. S. Birch; M., Mr. H. Trenly Birch.—This week: Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, "Find the Woman"; Thursday, Friday and Saturday: The Kinemacolor.

COLONNADE THEATRE DE LUXE.—M., Mr. Harry Plant.—This week: The Melbahs, musical artistes; Ford Williams, baritone; and pictures.

ROYAL LEAMINGTON PICTURE PALACE.—This week: Nellie Cooper, child vocalist; and pictures.

ROYAL ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—This week: Harry Lea, vocalist; Nesta Parker, 'cello soloist; Jack Gibbs, comedian; and pictures.

LEEDS.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. P. C. Rowe; L., Mr. P. C. Rowe.—This week (twice nightly): Houdini; Three Cape Girls; Durant Bros.; James Stuart; Bi-Ber-Ti; Frank Elliston and Co., in "Three and a Fool"; Aldon and Loupe; Sam Stern; and pictures.

QUEEN'S.—P., Mr. Fred W. Wood; M. & L., Mr. Charles Bush; Mus. D., Mr. G. W. Jackson.—This week (twice nightly): J. W. Cordiner and Harry Richardson present "The Colombo Girl." The company includes: Mr. Leonard Mentz, Mr. Charles Dawe, Mr. Finn Doyle, Mr. Arthur Lenville, Mr. Charles Tolcher, Miss Jessie Thompson, Miss Gertrude de Lacy, Miss Nellie Harcourt, Miss May Warden. Matinées, Monday and Tuesday, 2.30.

HIPPODROME.—R. M. and Licensee, Mr. Bertram J. Brown. — This week (twice nightly): Mr. Harry Burns presents "The Forty Thieves." The company includes: Miss Olive Plant, Miss Minnie d'Aubyn, Miss Mona Vivian, Miss Winnie Barr, Miss Mabel Sancton, Miss Mabel Fenwicke, Mr. Bobbie Walker, Mr. Edwin Garth, Mr. Philip Renouf, Messrs. Beatty Bros., Mr. Ruebin Kitchen, Mr. Victor Tyler, Mr. Walter West, the Four Fedoras. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30.

LEEK.

GRAND.—P., The Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.; L. & M., Mr. James Bibby; Mus. D., Mr. H. W. Goldstraw.—This week (twice nightly): Captain Permane, with his five Teddy bears and pony; the Cyclinis, trick cyclists; Molly Baldwin, vocalist; and pictures.

SALISBURY PALACE.—P., The Leek Skating Rink Co., Ltd.; Licensee, Mr. Sampson Salt; G. M., Mr. George Salt; A. M., Mr. George E. Gough; Mus. D., Mr. Harold Ellis.—This week: Amasis, Egyptian magician; the Musical Keiths, instrumentalists; and pictures. Twice nightly; matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

LEICESTER.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE. — P. & M., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; B. M., Mr. W. J. Andrews; Mus. D., Herr Theo Klee.—After six weeks of pantomime a most welcome change was made here on Monday evening, when Sir George Alexander's company opened on a first visit with "Bella Donna." The play proved thoroughly interesting, and it has also the great advantage of being interpreted by a company of exceptionally clever people. The mounting, too, was artistic in the extreme, and evoked the admiration of a delighted audience. Mr. Stephen T. Ewart, a sound actor, gives a masterly performance as Dr. Meyer Isaacson, and Miss Edyth Latimer, as Mrs. Chepstow, was a conspicuous success with a brilliant portrayal. Mr. George Bishop as the Hon. Nigel Armine, and Mr. Herbert Ransom as Mahmoud Baroudi were both excellent, and others who also did well were Mr. Cyril Cattley as Ibraham, Mr. Eric G. Turner as Hamza, and Mr. J. Adeane-Barlow as Hassan. The other parts were all done justice to, and the play met with an enthusiastic reception on the opening night.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Sole L. & M., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; A. M., Mr. P. Allerton Turner; Mus. D., Mr. J. H. Vann.—A good house here on Monday evening gave a hearty reception to Mr. E. Hall-Mitchelson's company in the well-staged and well-played drama, "The Blackguard of the Queen's Regiment." Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson is seen to considerable advantage as Captain Keloff, a part that he plays throughout with telling effect; Miss Tessa Myers as the Queen creates an excellent impression with a good delineation, and Mr. Sidney A. Monckton as Prince Karnac is also deserving of special praise. Mr. Stanley W. Healey (Lieutenant Agra), Mr. Cyril Harrison (Mr. Sheridan), Mr. Willie Hicks (Dr. Leaux), Miss Laurie Adair (Maria), Miss Mysie Monte (Countess Torvet), and Miss Alice Barber (Verna), are others in the cast to be singled out for eulogium.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds; Asst. M., Mr. W. Faber-Stewart; Mus. D., Mr. John W. Lowe.—An interesting novelty here this week is Mr. Raymond Phillips's wirelessly controlled airship; the Delevines are successful in "The Wicked Witches' Wish," in which they display their skill as legmania artistes in their usual clever style; Walter Bellonini's juggling is an outstanding feature, and with his funny assistant he gives a most enjoyable entertainment; the Ten Loonies, the crazy musicians, are amusing; Jimmy Godden, an excellent comedian, is making a success straight from his pantomime engagement; Henry Helme, vocalist, proves popular; Kitty Wager is a lively comedienne; and Fred Poplar, comedian, creates merriment. Bioscope pictures complete.

PAVILION THEATRE.—P., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; B. M., Mr. Joseph Lawrence; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Britcher.—There is a good "show" here again this week. Miss Marie Santoi's company are presenting their bright little musical comedy, "A Night in Japan," in which Marie Santoi, a charming little woman, makes her usual big hit, having the assistance of other capable artistes; Miss Pamela Moore's company, including Edward Rainer, are seen to advantage in the sensational detective episode, "The Forger," which is well suited to the tastes of the habitués of this hall; the Three Orans are smart in their gymnastic speciality; Karl and Eddie are a couple of clever boys, who present music and comedy; May Sherrard, the comedienne in the hobble, is good; and an entertaining comedian appears in Harry Harley. In place of Bert Groves the Three Colquhouns appear. Bioscope pictures complete.

EMPIRE.—Sole L., The New Bioscope Trading Co.; R. M., Mr. Chas R. Craig.—Shirley Ganney, a capital light comedian, and a strong programme of pictures, form this week's entertainment.

LEIGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole L., Messrs. F. Gould and G. Jordon; G. M., Mr. Geo. Jordon; Mus. D., Mr. Jas. Haydock.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company in "When London Sleeps." The company includes: Messrs. Alfred D. Adams, Herbert Morgan, Ernest C. Edwards, Sydney Arthur, Victor Mason, Chas. Digby, John Belton, J. E. Abbott, Robt. Heaton, E. Newman, J. Ames, S. Lea, the Misses Winifred Maine, Alice Helier, Little Madge Hope, Louie Heathfield, Cissie Cleveland, Christine Middleton, Bella Power, Florence Halton, and Florence Dalton.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—S. & A. M., Mr. Wm. Woolstencroft.—This week (once nightly): Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and J. E. Cardwell present "The Sleeping Beauty." The company includes: Miss May L. Murray, Miss Molly Rafferty, Mr. Will M'Geoch, Miss Marie Lumberg, Mr. Stanley Annison, Mr. Jackson Collis, Mr. Teddy Worth, Miss Nellie Stuart, Miss Lily Parkinson, Miss May Lilian, Mr. A. E. Rick, Mr. Tom Cowley, Misses Hughes and Allen, Miss Kitty Rafferty, and Little Freddie Hackin. Matinées, Monday and Saturday, at 2.30.

LEITH.

GAIETY THEATRE.—P., Mr. F. R. Graham-Yooll; G. M., Mr. R. M. Stratmore; Mus. D., Mr. John Crossley.—This week (twice nightly): Mlle. Sarema's Menagerie Circus; Lowrey's Juveniles, in their song scena, "Playmates"; and pictures. Matinée on Saturday, at 2.30.

LINCOLN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Messrs. Payne Seddon and Ernest Pope; R. M., Mr. Ernest Pope.—This week: Mr. Alexander Marsh and company present on Monday, "The Merchant of Venice"; Tuesday, "The Tempest"; Wednesday, "The Three Musketeers"; Thursday, "Macbeth"; Friday, "As You Like It"; and Saturday, "A Tale of Two Cities." The company includes: Mr. Alexander Marsh, Mr. Wilson Gunning, Mr. Edwin Beverley, Mr. Edmund Tennant, Mr. J. Grant, Mr. James Vernon, Mr. W. Edward Stirling, Mr. A. G. Fenn, Mr. Frank J. Fay, Mr. Henry Oscar, Mr. Oswald Dobson, Mr. J. William Mollison, Mr. Ian Fleming, Mr. Chowry Thorne, Mr. Leonard Trollope, Mr. Malcolm Watson, Mr. John Lennox, Mr. Edward Evans, Mr. John Vernon, Mr. George Vint, Mr. Henry Goodson, Mr. Henry Vickers, Mr. Edgar Sefton, Mr. Edmund Atkins, Mr. Frank Hunter, Mr. Edward Greenwood, Miss Ethel Bent, Miss Edith Hunter, Miss Dora Mason, Miss Agnes Gagan, Miss Mary Grimshaw, Miss Carrie Baillie. T. M., Mr. Albert Cavanah. Matinées, on Wednesday (2.30), "The Tempest"; Saturday, "Henry V." Next week: Miss E. van Praagh, in repertoire.

LIVERPOOL.

ROYAL COURT.—P., Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham; G. M., Mr. George T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. Arthur Lawrence; Mus. D., Mr. Julien H. Wilson.—The pantomime, "Tommy Tucker," still enjoys great popularity.

SHAKESPEARE.—M. D., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. John Gaffney; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Shea.—Good business continues with "Jack Horner" pantomime.

ROTUNDA.—M., Mr. M. Montgomery; A. M., Mr. Fred Coles; Mus. D., Mr. F. Thompson.—During the week Mr. James Bell's company, in "A Fatal Crown," played to large houses. Miss Annie Bell was the Lady Jane Grey, a rôle which she held with much effect; Mr. John Manners, as Herne the Hunter, was impressive; thanks were due to Miss Ethel Toney for her capital depiction of Mary Tudor; Mr. Arthur Gordon looked the part of the Earl of Northumberland; and Mr. Ernest R. Allen played strongly as Lord Dudley.

REPERTORY.—G. M., Mr. Basil Dean; B. M., Mr. T. J. Pigott; Mus. D., Mr. Joseph Smith; Stage M. and Producer, Mr. Arthur K. Phillips.—After the successful run from Christmas of the fairy play, "Fifinella," which finished on Saturday last, it was intended to start the usual season on Monday with a revival of "Admiral Guinea," by W. E. Henley and R. L. Stevenson, preceded by a new one-act play named "The Right to Die," a notice of which appears in another column. Unfortunately one of the principal artistes became indisposed at the last moment, and a start could not be made until Wednesday evening, when a delighted audience gathered to witness "Admiral Guinea." It was received with every manifestation of satisfaction. Mr. Norman McKeown held the title-rôle, and gave a fine portrayal of the slave trader turned religious. It was, indeed, a brilliant sample of acting. Mr. Lawrence Hanray, perhaps, never did anything better than Pew, the blind, unscrupulous rascal and blackmailer, which is praise indeed for such a finished actor. His movements about the stage very naturally conveyed the idea of his loss of sight. Miss Ellinor Crup played Arethusa Gaunt in sympathetic style, Mr. Algernon F. M. Greig ably represented Kit French, and Mrs. Albert Barker pleased as Mrs. Drake. The work was very nicely staged.

KELLY'S.—L., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. Reginald Grant; Mus. D., Mr. J. A. Gardner.—The attraction here during the week has been "The Mormon and His Wives," presented by Mr. Oswald Cray's company. In the character of the Rev. Dudley Wade Mr. Cray earned the sympathies of his audience for his fine, manly portrait of the plucky parson; Mr. Clifton Earle and Mr. William H. Burton very powerfully presented the Mormon missionaries; Miss Sybil Hare played Nellie Weirdale in pleasing and sympathetic manner; and other good supporters were Messrs. Charles H. Hughes (Maloney), Bert H. Reynolds (Jerry), Harold Stephens (Jaspar Weirdale), Leslie Howard (Zachariah), Miss Helen Lowther (Mrs. Weirdale), and Miss Patty Dene (Rosie May).

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. George Manners; Asst. M., Mr. Arthur Hicks; Mus. D., Mr. George M. Saker.—Top of the bill here this week has been "Arms and the Girl," a comic operetta, which put in a first appearance. It was received in most favourable manner, amongst the principals who earned approval being Cyril Kempster (Sergeant John Water), Gracie Sinclaire (Elsie Manners), Dulcie Dalmar (Margaret McCurdie), Fred Conyers, and Horace Percival. As an entertainer at the piano, Mr. Leslie Harris has long held a premier position, and his numerous Liverpool friends have given him a rousing reception; Haydee's Marionettes were ably manipulated; Tucker, the singing violinist, earned loud applause for his really excellent turn; Millie Doris had some popular songs, which were richly enjoyed; a capital and funny turn was that provided by the Bros. Miller, comedy gymnasts and burlesque wrestlers; Les Marbas afforded much enjoyment with their acrobatic eccentricities; and Billy Matchett showed himself a comedian of resource.

LYRIC.—L., Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Mus. D., Mons. R. Klasse.—Here, this week, we have had Dottridge and Longden's pantomime, "Cinderella," which afforded much delight. Miss Winnifred Ray made a handsome Prince; the rôle of Cinderella was neatly undertaken by Miss Bessie Burke; Mr. Randolph Sutton was the Dandini; a lively Baron came from Will Wynne; Nash and Noel caused endless laughter with their eccentric pranks as the bailiffs; an effective Demon King was presented by Stenson Carew; and the Ugly Sisters were in the keeping of Fred Pullan and Syd Howard. The show was a good all-round one, and Cinderella's electrical fairy coach, with four ponies, a special feature. Harwood's Harmonising Sextette earned much recognition for their numbers.

PAVILION.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. George F. Slatter; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Braham.—Pantomime is again here. On Monday evening Mr. Andie Caine presented "Dick Whittington and His Cat," which was very cordially greeted by a packed house. The show compares favourably with any other, being characterised by picturesque scenes, lovely dresses, and plenty of pretty girls. Miss Maisie Gerrard was the Dick, with plenty of life and popular songs; Andie Caine caused great fun with his Dame, and was well supported by Kate Cooper (Alice), George Cooper (Fitzwarren), Dixon Cooper (Georgie), and Bobbie Burns (Idle Jack). Miss Hawthorne Thwaites was a pretty fairy, and Miss May McPherson acted the Princess with exceeding neatness. The Sultan was ably presented by Mr. Charlie Cork; Frank Royston was the cat; and the Murus Comedy Four were funny policemen and sailors. Specialities were introduced by Andie Caine, Maisie Gerrard, the Sisters Florence, the Three Coopers, and the Murus Comedy Four.

ROYAL PALACE.—M., Mr. M. Montgomery; A. M., Mr. Frank O'Toole; Mus. D., Mr. G. Dibbert.—Here, this week, the stock company have been giving an able presentation of "The Prairie Flower," from the joint pens of Arthur Carlton and Brandon Ellis. Good work was done by Messrs. Harry Tresham (Julian Clifford), Sydney Grant (Cabral), R. Seath Innes (Qimbo), Leo Montgomery (Washee), Miss Gwynne Warren (Florry), Miss Florence Cameron (Zella), and Miss F. Melrose Millett (Rosalie and Roonga). Brown's Royal Bioscope showed the latest pictures.

OLYMPIA.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. E. W. James; Asst. M., Mr. D. Casey; Mus. D., Mr. Albert Moore.—Top of the programme here is Neil Kenyon, who came in for a rousing reception from his numerous admirers in Liverpool. His latest songs, and his favourite sketches, "The Caddie," and "The Postman," delighted everybody. The O'Gorman Bros. were unable to appear on Monday, but able deputies were found in Frank and Vesta. American rag-time dancers, who earned great applause. Charles Wayne's incubator girls provided a talented musical turn; the Russell Trio afforded pleasure with their musical comedy, "A Pair of Jacks"; as classical athletes the Roland Bros. were particularly good; Magini caught the fancy of the audience with his remarkable violin playing; the Kellinos caused everybody to shout with laughter over their "crazy waiters" sketch; and Charles Stevens, comedian, had some capital songs.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. Walter Hassan; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Stokes.—Large audiences have enjoyed Mr. Fred W. Carpenter's pantomime, "Babes in the Wood." It is an altogether excellent production, and has a good, all-round company. Foremost was Marie Yorke, whose Robin Hood was especially bright and attractive. Dorothy Millar pleased generally with her Maid Marian; Gladys Clare and Lorna Reyard were the Babes, the latter showing remarkable talent for a child; great fun was caused by Naughton and Gold (robbers), Telly Dillson (dame), and George Grogie (baron), while Maud Wilson was the Fairy Queen. Dances were given by the Four Clifton Belles; and specialities introduced by Moran and Wiser, comedy hat throwers.

LONGTON.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—P., Longton Theatre, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. H. Sherrif Howard.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. H. A. Jordison presents "Red Riding Hood." The company includes: Mr. N. Barry, Miss Stella Wyndham, Miss Rosie Carr, Miss Doris Wheatley, Miss Ethel Elliott, Miss Gertrude Sylvester, Miss Ena Cairns, Miss Dollie Cullen, Miss Elsie Jordison, Little Violet Jeanes, Miss Lily Keand, Miss Ernie Jack, Mr. Fred Dunstone, Mr. Fred Spencer, Mr. Arthur Carthy, jun., Mr. William R. Bennett, Mr. J. R. Bennett, and Mr. Percy Curry. T. M., Mr. Napier Barry.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

VINT'S ELECTRIC HIPPODROME.—L., Mr. Leon Vint; G. M., Mr. Arthur Brogden; R. M., Mr. Graham Hylton.—This week: Gertrude Bibby, protean actress, in her quick-change play, "Bonnie Prince Charlie"; Jeavon and Jena, in a pot-pourri; Fred Lloyd, comedian; and pictures.

LOWESTOFT.

MARINA.—P., Mr. B. Pareezer.—This week: "The Great Detective," the company including Mr. Douglas Carlile and Miss Carlotta de Yonson.

HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—This week: Mamie Fenton and company, in "Comin' Thro' the Rye"; Sam Weller; Whitney and Joyner; Wallie Briggs; and Hope and Bayly, in "The Penny Dreadful."

MACCLESFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P. & M., Mr. W. K. Gatley.—This week: Miss Augusta Tullock and company present "The Mormon's Wife." The company includes: Miss Augusta Tullock, Mr. Roy J. Cuthbert, Miss Dorothea Vivian, Mr. B. W. Collins, Miss Rose Watson, Mr. Hesketh Wood, Mr. Erne King, Mr. Frank Marlow, and Mr. K. St. George. Next week, "Aladdin."

MAIDENHEAD.

NEW THEATRE.—P., Mr. George Gude.—Friday, Feb. 7: Miss Inez Howard's company, in "The Monk and the Woman." The cast includes: Messrs. Chas. A. Baker, Walter H. Terriss, Ernest A. Waller, H. Victor Smith, C. Newton Buckland, Alec Alexander, Cecil Lloyd, T. G. Helliwell, Edwin T. Kent, Fred L. English, Maurice Raly, Alec Finlayson, Edward Warden, Hermann Decker, H. Hayward, F. St. John, Geo. Endell, Sydney Forrest, Grace Stafford, and Misses Daisy Cryer, Florence May, Nellie C. Bilbe, and Margaret Savill.

MAIDSTONE.

PALACE.—P., T. S. Dickie and Co.; R. M., Mr. E. C. Potter.—This week: Mr. Wentworth Croke presents "Cinderella." The company includes: Misses Clara Moore, Edna Deno, Lily Arthur, Fanny Bass, Amy Wright, Messrs. the Brothers Obo, Geo. Rance, Bert Morley, Tom E. Sloan, and Willie Benn's Sunrays dancers. T. M., Mr. Bert Morley.

MARGATE.

THEATRE ROYAL. — M., Mr. Frank Weathersby.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Ernest E. Norris presents "The Walls of Jericho." The company includes: Mr. Ernest E. Norris, Mr. Edwin A. Wheeler, Mr. Bruce Allen, Mr. R. Watt, Mr. Chris A. Olgar, Mr. Jack Heller, Mr. Arthur

PURVEYORS TO THE AUSTRIAN & HUNGARIAN I & R. COURTS AND TO H.R.H. PRINCE GEORGE OF GREECE

Wilson, Mr. C. Dashwood, Mr. Frederick Valder, Miss Gertrude Le Sage, Miss Agnes Brucesmith, Miss Beryl Paul, Miss Mary Kingsley, Miss Marjorie Clutterbuck, Miss May Hobson, Miss Eily O'Donohoe, and Miss Ray Parry. T. M., Mr. Robert Watt. Matinée, Thursday, at 2.45. Next week: "The Mysteries of the Thames."

HIPPODROME.—P., The South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. James Mayall.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Bransgrove and Slaughter present "The Little Damozel."

MANCHESTER.

PRINCE'S.—M. D. & Licensee, Mr. John Hart; A. M., Mr. George Lee.—Mr. George Edwardes's company opened here to a packed house on Monday in "The Sunshine Girl," with Miss Phyllis Dare in her original part as Delia Dale. Miss Dare sings and acts delightfully. Another attractive personality in the cast is Miss Phyllys Le Grand, who, as Lady Rosabelle, plays with a dainty cleverness, and adds to her local popularity. Other clever ladies of the company are Miss Doris Deane, who makes a charming Marie Sylvaine, and Miss May Marton, who gets plenty of fun out of the rôle of Brenda Blacker. One of the strongest attractions is Mr. George Gregory, who plays Floot in irrepressibly comic style; Mr. W. H. Rawlins is seen in a congenially humorous part as Commodore Parker; Mr. Frank Hector is smart and amusing as Lord Bicester; and Mr. Paul Plunket is quite the right figure as the masquerading Vernon Blundell. A notable hit is made in the last act by the three principal comedians in a song and ballet, impersonating Mr. Lloyd George, Mr. Asquith, and Mr. Churchill, with highly ludicrous effect. The piece is brilliantly put on.

GAIETY THEATRE. — Sole P. and Licensee, Miss A. E. F. Horniman; A. M., Mr. W. Roberts-Marshall; Mus. D., Nikolai Sokoloff.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Matheson Lang and company in "Westward Ho!" T. M., Mr. W. F. Crowe. The company includes: Mr. F. Percival Stevens, Mr. Harry Ashford, Mr. C. Moyston, Mr. David Hallam, Mr. Oliver Stanley, Mr. Charles Blythe, Mr. S. H. Eustace, Mr. Matheson Lang, Mr. Jas. Plinge, Mr. Halliwell Hobbes, Mr. Edward O'Neill, Mr. L. T. Vallacott, Mr. W. E. Gardiner, Miss Marjory Carpenter, Miss Betty Hutch, Miss M. L. Faiden, Mr. Basil L. Sydney, Mr. R. Scrope-Quentin, Miss Nona Wynne, Mr. Clarence Blakiston, Mr. Sydney Vautier, Mr. Arthur Seaton, Mr. Henry Stanhope, Miss Dorothy Ripley, Miss Harriet Trench, Miss Ethel Harper, Miss Ethel Gray. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. J. Brearley; Mus. D., Mr. J. Colton.—Mr. Arthur Hinton and Leila Zillwood's company are appearing here in a return visit of the Eastern drama, "Allah's Orchard." Mr. Arthur Hinton himself plays the prominent rôle of the Prince of Barona, and Miss Florence Zillwood is again conspicuous as Muriel Dugarde.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. C. W. Meek; Mus. D., Mr. Edward Bleasdale. — Mr. Arthur Hinton and Miss Leila Zillwood present here "King of the Gipsies." The play is full of interest, which is well sustained from the rise to the fall of the curtain. A specially good feature is the fifth scene, strongly performed by Miss Emma Litchfield (the authoress) as Flash Liz. Mr. Sidney Bland as Jack Morland, Miss Ethel F. Greene as Little Chance, and Mr. Albert Grenville as Oliver Hunter, a humorous character as well as a rogue. Mr. Bertram Thomas also figures acceptably as Terry O'Flynn. The cast as a whole is a very capable one, and the play is drawing good houses.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE. — P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. J. Mason. —Messrs. Travis Green and Graham Winsford are presenting here the sensational Mexican drama, "The Pride of the Prairie."

METROPOLE THEATRE.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. Edward M. Hamilton; Mus. D., Mr. C. H. Bayley.—Mr. J. Gar Kiddie's popular pantomime, "Mother Goose," was moved here this week, continuing its successful run.

EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. Horace Cocks; Mus. C., Mr. R. Hardwick.—The big attraction here this week is Gertie Gitana, the popular songstress, in new songs and old favourites. The Great Roland is also a star turn, presenting a series of astonishing illusions. Very striking and enjoyable is the comedy vocalism of Dusty Rhodes; Fred Russell and "Coster Joe" appear in a ventriloquial novelty; Doroswami's performance on a violin is remarkably clever; Jean Robb contributes a smart and pleasing turn in Scottish character songs; Belle Mora, eccentric comedienne and dancer, is also very well received; and other interesting items are ably contributed by Hynd's Roosters, in "Fun in a Poultry Yard"; and Hal Russ, comedian.

HIPPODROME. — M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. Nelson Barry; Mus. C., Mr. Alfred Haines.—Here an excellent all-round programme is headed by "Instinct." by Penrhyn Stanlaws, a play which is perhaps the most effective ever seen in vaudeville. It is played in convincing style by Mr. C. Aubrey Smith and Miss Lilian Braithwaite, very ably supported by Mr. Charles Vernon. Miss Mary Raby, and Mr. Tom Mowbray. The piece is well mounted and won unstinted applause. The Lorch Family go through an artistic acrobatic performance; Cruikshank is a merry fellow who is well received; the Harlequinaders are heard to advantage in the breezy musical mélange by George Asaf and Felix Powel; Ferry Corwey, the musical clown, is a big success; Daisy Taylor, Scotland's comedienne and dancer, sings very nicely and dances neatly; and Lucy Coventry, a smart comedienne, dances cleverly. "Music hath charms" on the Bioscope is interesting.

PALACE.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; M., Mr. Peter Watson; S. and Asst. M., Mr. Jesse Hewitt; Mus. D., Mr. T. H. Gaggs.—Fred Karno's "Perkins in Paris," with Albert Bruno as Perkins and a capital company, are here this week delighting big audiences. Another very good turn is that of Julian Rose, the famous raconteur, whose stories are delightfully funny. Dora Lynie, comedienne, charms with several taking songs; Jake Friedman, as usual, makes a hit with his Anglo-Dutch songs; Edna Zora and Juveniles, assisted by Carl Rosina at the piano gives a very pleasing turn; Herbert Rule, comedian, is good; the dancing of the Four Ascots is smart and clever; and the comedy gymnastic act of Felix and Fisher is excellent. Up-to-date pictures complete. Rembrandt, the "Artoonist," was unable to give his performance on the night of our visit owing to his baggage not having arrived.

HULME HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. Fred Dry; Mus. D., Mr. Harry Walker.—Erard's Vaudevillians are the top liners here, and their songscenas, under the direction of Walter Erard, are very pleasing and well received. As usual F. V. St. Clair scores with his topical songs; Arthur Slater, the whistler, provides an enjoyable turn; Roland George is exceptionally good in an instrumental act; and other smart turns are offered by Herd and Card, in capital comedy musical act, "The Unexpected Musician"; Tim Carlile, a first-rate comedian; and Penman and Miller, gymnastic comedians on the triple bars. Some beautiful pictures are also shown. On the occasion of our visit Gerald Griffin and company, who figured on the programme, did not appear, their place being filled by Mike Wallan, whose songs and talk were greatly enjoyed.

TIVOLI.—P., The Tivoli (Manchester), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Chas. A. Wilkes; M., Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes; Mus. D., Mr. George Neilson.—A fine turn here is that of the Australian McLeans, who make a big hit in their play-dance, "Le Voleur de Nuit." Eugene Damond plays several selections in a highly finished style and is well received; Chris Van Bern is vastly entertaining in his monologue, which amuses and mystifies; and Campbell and Brady, American novelty duo, are seen in a clever juggling act. Other excellent turns are offered by Frank and Beryl Harmer, vocal comedy duo; Olive Dene, comedienne and expert dancer; Ted Sanders, mimic; and Iva Voyce, contralto vocalist. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope pictures complete.

KING'S THEATRE, LONGSIGHT.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead; A. M., Mr. Jas. A. Trippett; Mus. D., Mr. David L. Booth.—Mr. Raynor and his repertoire company are once more here, and are appearing in those favourite plays, "Sunlight and Shadow," "Billy's Little Love Affair," "Caste," and "Moths."

ALHAMBRA, OPENSHAW.—L., The Alhambra, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Arthur S. Evanson; Mus. D., Mr. J. Harney.—This week (twice nightly): Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr. J. Edward Whitty present, Monday and Tuesday, "Moths"; Wednesday and Thursday, "The Hand of Destiny"; Friday and Saturday, "Caste." The company includes: Mr. A. Austin Leigh, Mr. Guy P. Ellis, Mr. John Corless, Mr. Stuart Chedburn, Mr. Harold Ford, Mr. H. T. Weldon, Mr. Charles Gratton, Mr. Robert Sedgeley, Mr. Richard L. Priestley, Miss Flora Hastings, Miss May Neilson, Miss Dorothy Dewhurst and Miss Ethel Van Praagh. Matinée, Monday, at 2.30.

LESLIE'S PAVILION.—P., Mr. Harry Leslie; A. M., Mr. George Phillips.—This week (once nightly): Here for a second week are Mr. George Royle's famous Fol-de-Rols, playing to good houses.

KING'S HOTEL, OXFORD-ROAD.—R. Davies, Proprietor.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. J. W. Wilkinson.—This week: "Bebes in the Wood," presented by Mr. Fred Granville. The company includes: Messrs. Harry Jones, George Green, Matt Kilduff, Evan Davis, Brothers Sherrard, Misses F. Latham, M. Minster, B. Savage, M. Wallace, Kitty Colman, Ivy Arnold, Marie Estelle, Betty Boden, Vera Elmore, Millie Travis, Kitty Clifton, Kitty Gordon, E. Burgess, E. Brooks, C. Hornby, and Sisters Lyall.

TEMPERANCE HALL AND CENTRAL CINEMA.—G. M., Mr. Israel Price.—This week (twice nightly): Zella Vondi and company, in Bleriot's Fairy Fountains; Simosa San, in juggling and balancing; Frank Rose and May Royce, in "Quits"; Nellie and Queenie Carlton, duettists and dancers; F. R. Auk, comedian; and pictures.

MEXBOROUGH.

EMPIRE PALACE.—P., The Empire Palace (Mexborough), Ltd.; R. M., Mr. George Beverley; Mus. D., Mr. Oscar Haigh.—This week (twice nightly): The Swansons, comedians; Frank and Dolly Shannon, dancers; and pictures. Matinée, Tuesday morning at 10.30. Picture matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; M., Mr. W. L. Knight; Mus. D., Mr. J. W. Simpson—This week: Hans and Fritz, chimpanzees; Colbert, hoop manipulator; Pauline Du Barrie, male impersonator; Phil Rees' Stable Lads, in "After the Trial"; Ernie Ream, comedian at the piano; and pictures.

MONTAGU ARMS.—Prof. House. Proprietor, Mr. F. J. Law.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—L., Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; A. M., Mr. W. K. Chatto.—This week (once nightly): Mr. S. F. Davidson presents "Cinderella." The company includes: Miss Ouida Macdermott, Miss Nell Emerald, Miss Jess Hamilton, Mr. Johnny Osborne, Mr. Paddy Dupres, Miss Jennie Hackett, Miss Dorothy L. Townrow, Miss Violet Russell, Mr. Harry Rogerson, Miss Maime Hainsworth, Miss Lily Best, Miss Forsdike, Miss Minnie Fairbrook, Miss Lydia Hobson, and Miss Grace Vaughan. T. M., Mr. L. Crawford Orr. Matinée, Saturday, at 2 p.m. Next week: Joseph O'Mara Grand Opera company.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; M., Mr. G. Imeson.—This week: Mrs. W. Watson presents "Little Jack Horner." Company includes: Misses Etty Waldron, Maimie Ellis, Ada Sinclair, May Dinsdale, Olive Sinclair, Maud Naylor, Dorothy Dell, Violet Slater, Elsie May, Messrs. Joe Waldron, Franklin Miles, Doyle and Massey, Wally Gilbert, Bert Taylor, J. Hughes, Cliff Dacre, Billy Waldron, and Mme. Louie Girbert.

EMPIRE.—M., Mr. W. Ker Chatto.—This week: Johnson Clark, ventriloquist; Minnie Paget, concertinist; Young and Evans, comedians; the Eight Frolics, vocalists and dancers; Ernesto, juggler; Cedar and Elgar, comedians; Flo Burnett, vocalist; Harry Tate presents Woody and Well in "The Perch Club."

HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. T. Thompson; M., Mr. S. Gibson.—This week: Eight Rag-time Darkies, vocalists and dancers; the Royal Hungarian Midgets' Band, and the Misses Lytton and De Silva, vocalists; and pictures.

NEATH.

VINT'S HIPPODROME.—P., Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. A. H. Noice; G. M., Mr. Arthur Brogden.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Hy L. Osmond presents "The Babes in the Wood." The company includes: Miss Amy Allnutt, Miss Ethel Glyde, Mr. Bert Goldin, Wee Winnie and Alice, Mr. Alan Hanbury, Mr. Fred Harriss, the Danbys, Miss Lillie English, Miss Violet English, and Miss Dorothy Barron. T. M., Mr. Bert Goldin. Matinée, Saturday, at 2 p.m. Next week: "Kit Carson."

GNOLL HALL.—P., Gnoll Picture and Variety Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Vivian Aldridge; Mus. D., Mr. G. M. Butt.—This week (twice nightly): The Four Chunns; Beryl and Benita, in comedy and dancing act; Paul and Fred Wille, equilibrists; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PALACE.—P., Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Leon Vint; R. M., Mr. E. Gilley; G. M., Mr. Arthur Brogden.—This week (twice nightly): Tarro Miyake, wrestler; the Vagabond West, singer; Leo Tell, musician; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30. Next week: The Zancigs.

NELSON.

GRAND.—L., Mr. W. C. Horner; M., Mr. H. S. Parker.—This week: Travis Green's company in "Queen of the Redskins."

PALACE.—L. & M., Mr. J. S. Livesey.—This week (twice nightly): The Salores, whirling demons; Victor Kelly, comedian; the Rascals, vocalists and dancers; Lil Sprightly, comedienne; Harry Friskey, juggler; Cling and Clancey; Burgos and Clara; and pictures.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Messrs. the Robert Arthur Theatres, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—Mr. George Dance's company "Kismet" is this week paying a welcome return visit to Newcastle, and on Monday night a crowded audience followed Mr. Edward Knoblauch's story with rapt attention. Mr. Dance has sent a particularly strong company. The great success that Mr. Hubert Carter scores is a fitting tribute to his ability; as Marsinah, Miss Georgina Milne is perfect, and others worthy of special note are Mr. Frederick Annerley, Mr. G. R. Montford, Mr. F. W. Ford, Mr. Eric Burrows, Mr. Gerald Hamer, Miss Nina Lyn and Miss Amy Fanchette.

TYNE THEATRE.—L., Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; M. Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—The pantomime, "Old King Cole," is going stronger than ever.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Messrs. Alfred Butt and Walter De Frece; M., Mr. Gerald Morton.—Mr. G. P. Huntley is paying a welcome visit here, and scores heavily in a capital sketch entitled "Curios." He is ably supported by Mr. Harry Grattan and Miss Eva Kelly; Herbert Sleath's company in "Third Degree" are also responsible for a particularly interesting half hour; the Banzal Family are Japanese artistes of exceptional merit; Bertram Banks is a clever mimic; the Three Its, vocalists: Elida Morris, comedienne; Gillin, ventriloquist; the Miles-Stavordale Quintette; and the animated pictures conclude.

PALACE.—M. D., Mr. T. W. Rowe; B. M., Mr. E. B. Clark.—This week (twice nightly): J. Cowling's company, in "The Collier's Lass." The company includes: Mr. Harry Saintsbury, Mr. Stanley Radcliffe, Mr. Kenneth Jackson, Mr. William H. Melrose, Mr. Ben Carr, Mr. Bert Johnson, Mr. John Locke, Mr. Esterbrook, Mr. George Lorena, Miss Ivy Clowser, Miss Bella Moody, Miss Adell Lidden, Miss Annie Graham, Miss Elsie Shelton. T. M., Mr. Stanley Radcliffe. Next week: "Red Riding Hood."

PAVILION.—P., The Pavilion, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. W. Parham Wells; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur E. Breakwell.—This week (twice nightly): M. Gintaro, juggler, etc.; Archie Glen, comedian and raconteur; Violet Romaine, vocalist; Max Rivers and Mamie Sullivan, in dance novelties; Harry Harvey, comedian; the Four Clovelly Girls, in juggling novelty; Ben Medani, Arabian acrobats; Deszo Kordy, 'cellist, and company; and pictures. Matinée, Tuesday, 2.30.

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. Moss', Ltd.; R. D., Mr. Richard Thornton; M., J. W. Kilgour; Mus. D., Mr. J. W. Dawson.—This week: Gene Greene, a study in songs; Charles Straight, at the piano; Princess D'Aryaba, in her dancing scena, "La Sylphe," introducing La Zafra, the youngest toe dancer in the world, assisted by Mlle. Nova; the Real McKays, Scotland's representative, juvenile entertainers; the famous Craggs, presenting "Billy"; Geo. Newburn, mimic; Leslie Bros., musical comedians; Austen Temple, in original magical problems, assisted by Irene Vincent; Huley and Bent, comedy duo; Adam Tomlinson, comedian; and pictures.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Mr. George Black.—The films featured here are of a particularly high standard, and excellent varieties are introduced by Dan Pedley comedian; the Clements, in their daring aerial act; and the Six Juggling Geraldos.

THE NEW PICTURE HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. Grand; M., Mr. A. Sunderland.—Good business is being done here, and the chief film this week is "In the spring-time of life."

GEM PALACE, HEXHAM-ON-TYNE. — P., Messrs. The Northern Biograph Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Richard Waugh.—The chief attraction here this week is the appearance of Les Luraines, who prove themselves to be lady instrumentalists of exceptional ability; Kinnard, juggler, and his dog; and the pictures conclude.

NEWPORT.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. J. H. Milburn.—This week (twice nightly): Friend and Downing, comedy couple; Macdonald and Young company in "The Lodgers"; Vernon Troupe, xylophone experts; Burt Shepard, at the piano; Louis J. Seymour, comedian; Shirley and Ransome, depicting cockney life; Nora Emerald, comedienne; Donaldson Brothers, presenting "Sports in a Jungle"; and pictures.

NORTHAMPTON.

NEW THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. Walter T. Simmons; R. M., Mr. Percy Gallagher; Mus. D., Mr. Albert Heyes.—This week (twice nightly): Keino Johnston and company, in "The Three Thieves," by Harry M. Vernon; Walter Munroe, in "Father Mac"; G. H. Charlton; Dekker and Khan, in "Two Men"; Briff, Braff and Broff, comedy tumblers; Lena Leslie, dainty comedienne; Rob, Ivy and Lyn, in song-scena, "The Garden of Music"; and Tom E. Finglass, cowboy coon.

NORTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. Horace Lee.—This week (twice nightly): Wal Langtry, Scott and Kanes, Fourteen Royal Kino Juveniles, Ernest Rovilli, Joe Dixon, Bros. Holson, Sisters Draycott, Sarraguna, Addison's Sporting Terriers. Next week: "The Pet of the Ranch."

BORO' THEATRE.—P. & M., Messrs. Black Bros.; R. M., Mr. Percy Gibson; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Ridsdale.—This week (twice nightly): The Lacori Family, in their trapeze act; Little Ella, juvenile mimic; Brothers Ford, in singing and dancing act; and pictures.

NORTHWICH.

NEW PAVILION.—P., Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes; M., Mr. Harry T. Cornish; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur W. Parry.—This week: Harry Edson and his dog comedian, "Doc"; the Four Huberts, juveniles, in songs and dance; Walter Stanley, comedian; Linden and McCrave, in "Woman"; Helene and Emilion, gymnasts; and pictures.

NORWICH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole M., Mr. Fred Morgan.—This week: Mr. George Edwardes's company in "The Count of Luxembourg" is the attraction. The company includes: Messrs. Willie Hartell, Mark Lester, Edwin Oxlee, Dundas Walker, Lacy Mills, Ernest Norris, Norman Brown, A. Traile, Alec Johnstone, Ernest Wellesley, R. Graham, Nigel Barrie, Mesdames Vere Sinclair, Lena Hicks, Elsa Tremlow, Marguerite Vernon, Marguerite Edgley, Irene Crammond, Nancy Mortimer, Eva Hertz, Marjorie Gresham, J. Rutter, Mercy June, Gertie Anderton, Mabel Twemlow. Special dances are given by Miss Gertie Anderson and Mr. Dundas Walker. Mr. Ernee Woodville ably conducts the full chorus and augmented orchestra. Every evening. Matinée on Saturday at 2.30.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; M., Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—This week: Mr. Harry Roxbury's grand comic pantomime, "Mother Goose," is here. The artistes include: Messrs. Frank Morton, Fred Acton, F. Robinson, J. W. Gallagher, Walter Dale, Mesdames Zeta Murdoch, Kitty Russell, Cissie Esdaile, Rosa Martlett, Irene Millard, Madeline Dore, Nellie Tomlinson, M. Douglas, Violet Brown, the Lemairs, Day and Deen. Specialities are introduced by the Lemairs and Sydney T. Russell's Eight Sydney Girls; whilst Mr. Leo T. Ashe ably conducts. Twice nightly; matinée, Saturday at 2.30.

PRINCE OF WALES' PALACE.—M., Mr. R. A. Atkinson.—This week: Amandus, the facial mimic; Mlle. Rosina, expert instrumentalist; W. L. Cecil, slack wire equilibrist; and pictures. Continuous performance. Matinée Saturday at 2.30.

NORWICH ELECTRIC THEATRE.—M., Mr. G. F. Allen.—The variety here this week are Wilton and Howard, in a musical comedy duologue, "The Winner"; and Gordon Brown, the boy tenor.

NOTTINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL. — L., Robert Arthur Theatres, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Howard Finney; Mus. D., Mr. John Armstrong.—The penultimate week of "Cinderella" has brought her fresh crowds of admirers. Owing to the illness of Miss Edna Morgan, the rôle of the Prince was undertaken at very short notice on Monday last by Miss Kitty Clyde, whose bright presence and well-modulated voice made her a very acceptable and intelligent exponent. The rest of the cast played well, and an enjoyable performance resulted.

GRAND THEATRE.—M., Mr. Frank Seabrooke; Mus. D., Mr. Sydney Twinn.—The return visit of Wm. Holland and Fred Clement's pantomime, "Aladdin," is having a large measure of success, and old favourites are warmly greeted. Miss Mabel Hind as Aladdin has, if anything, gained in sprightliness and unbounded vivacity. She sings brightly and with taste, and her appearance on Monday evoked general applause. Miss Poppie Holland again essays the rôle of the Princess, singing and dancing with charming grace. The comedians are fully alive to their opportunities. Led by Mr. Willie Cave, whose Abanazar is droll enough for anything, the fun is kept constantly on the move by Mr. Fred Hutchings, a decidedly humorous Widow Twankey, Mr. Joe Lipton, a comical Chinese character, the Brothers Valdo as Policemen, Mr. Steane Louch, whose pomposity as the Emperor makes for merriment, and Mr. Jimmie Cozens evoking plenty of laughter by his eccentricities. Miss Bertha Smilie, the Lancashire lass, singe pleasantly, and excellent dances are given by the Twelve Sunshines.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Ernest Bridgen; Mus. D., Mr. W. L. Richards.—The artistic methods of Eugene Stratton are specially exemplified in "Uncle Jasper," in which he has the able help of Miss Aida Hall. The comedy impressions of Harry Webber are hugely enjoyed, while Ike and Will Scott supply a humorous burlesque on original lines. Rich Taylor's ventriloquial item makes first-rate fun; the Sisters Cora give a pleasing vaudeville act; the Paulhan team of cyclists gain an enthusiastic reception for their football entertainment; smart feats are accomplished by Alf Tack while on his head; Little Edna Dayne shows distinct promise as a comedienne; and Charles Cardow is thoroughly amusing in his songs.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; A. M., Mr. Albert C. Duncan; Asst. M., Mr. Stanhope Butler, jun.; Mus. D., Mr. Holman.—An artistic and mysterious entertainment of illusions by Signor Arvi calls forth the most appreciative acknowledgment. The Grotesques, a pierrot troupe of exceptional ability, submit a smart burlesque of a village concert; the dramatic episode, "Saved by Wireless," is cleverly played by Gilbert Heron's company; the Six Bell-Hattons prove capital executants on a large number of musical instruments; Peakman and Walsh make enjoyable fooling in a speciality; and the programme is also enlivened by Katie Butler, comedienne; Ross Warren, comedian; and Harry Conlin, chorus vocalist.

(*Continued on page 25.*)

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the Council meeting, held at 32, Regent-street, on Tuesday, Feb. 4.

Present:—Mr. Murri Moncrieff (in the chair), Mr. H. W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Messrs. Fredk. James, John Mortimer, C. F. Collings, Adnam Sprange, Wyn Weaver, Arthur Dennis, Clarence Derwent, Miss Phyllis Broughton, Miss Vita Spencer, Miss Rose Cazalet, Miss Laura Leycester, Miss Lucy Sibley, and Mr. D. Young (secretary).

The secretary read a letter from Mr. Ben. Webster informing the Council that he would not be able to attend the annual general meeting, and asking them to appoint another chairman for the Matinée Committee.

The secretary read a letter from a member with regard to the insanitary condition of a provincial theatre, and received instructions to write again to the authorities, and if the matter was not taken up, to write to the Board of Trade.

The secretary read a letter from another member with regard to another provincial theatre, and was instructed to take the usual procedure on the motion of Miss Spencer, seconded by Miss Cazalet.

The secretary read a letter from a town clerk in reply to the Council's complaint against a music hall, who promised to give the matter his attention.

FINANCE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The Finance Committee's report was read by Mr. Sprange, and adopted on the motion of Miss Sibley, seconded by Mr. Mortimer.

HON. SOLICITOR'S REPORT.

The hon. solicitor reported on three cases, and the successful conclusion of another.

A telegram was handed in from Mr. William Devereux, regretting his absence.

AGENDA FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The secretary submitted the agenda for the annual general meeting, which was adopted.

BALL COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

Mr. John Mortimer reported that all arrangements were completed for the ball, a great many tickets had been sold, and everything pointed to a great success. Application for tickets may be made up to 8 o'clock on Friday, the 7th inst., at the rooms of the Association, or can be purchased at the Holborn Restaurant on the night.

Mr. Sprange promised to attend as acting secretary on Friday afternoon, the 7th inst.

Elections:—Monica Marshall and Stella Dunlop.

Reinstatement:—Helen North.

Nominations:—Ernita Lascelles, Joan Russel, Daisy Race, and Gladys Cunningham.

Mr. Clarence Derwent suggested the advisability of a paragraph being sent to the "Stage" and "Era" calling attention to the fact that the attendance at the annual general meeting is not limited to members of the Association, and the secretary promised to attend to the matter.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

Wagner's beautiful love drama, "Tristan und Isolde," was performed at Covent Garden on Thursday evening, Jan. 30, for the first time in Mr. Beecham's winter season. The performance in most respects was excellent, although at times the enthusiasm displayed by the orchestra proved somewhat embarrassing to the vocalists. Frl. Fassbender, who appeared in the part of Isolde some two years ago, was warmly welcomed on her return to Covent Garden. She is an artiste who gives full scope to the womanly side of Isolde, while her fine voice aids the more dramatic situations. Herr Heinrich Knote's Tristan is familiar to opera-goers, and, with Mme. Fassbender, the great duet was finely sung. Frl. Langendorff, a new comer in the part of Bragane, won instant favour by her fine singing and intelligent acting. Herr Paul Knupfer made a dignified King Mark, his serious acting being in great contrast to the fun of Baron Ochs in Strauss's comic opera on the opening night. As Kurwenal, Herr Friedrich Brodersin was excellent, both in his acting and singing; while Herr Ernst Von Pick showed great ability in the part of Melot. Messrs. John Bardsley, Denis Byndon-Ayres, and Albert Chapman completed the cast. The orchestra again played with a spirit which at times proved somewhat overpowering, and Mr. Thomas Beecham conducted intelligently.

Sir Joseph Beecham will produce, at the Aldwych Theatre on March 4, a new play by Messrs. Lechmere Worrall and Atte Hall, entitled "Her Side of the House," with a cast including Mr. Godfrey Tearle, Mr. Spencer Trevor, Mr. Harold Deacon, Mr. Philip Anthony, Mr. Alfred Toosé, Miss Dulce Wroughton, Miss Helen Ferrers, Miss Manora Thew, Miss Joy Chatwyn, Miss Jane Cooper, and Miss Helen Green.

NATIONAL RESERVE MATINEE.

On behalf of the National Reserve (City of Westminster Battalions) a matinée was held at the St. James's Theatre (kindly lent by Sir George Alexander), on Friday afternoon, the 31st . The performance was under distinguished patronage, and a number of officers in uniform were to be seen in various parts of the house. A long and strong programme, arranged by C. T. H. Helmsley and Robert Horton, attracted a large and enthusiastic audience, the band of the 2nd Life Guards, conducted by Lieut. Charles Hall, M.V.O., playing the overture, a selection of National airs. Miss Audrey Rees-Webbe, an expert on the side-drum, was the first artiste to take the stage, and her novel and attractively presented contribution was loudly acclaimed. "An Imaginary Conversation," recently played at the Prince of Wales's, followed, Miss Marie Tempest repeating her delightful impersonation of Kate Moore, and singing as charmingly as ever; Mr. Graham Browne as the highly-strung patriot, Robert Emmett, and Mr. Shiel Barry as Tom Moore, playing their parts perfectly. Next came Miss Vesta Tilley, with her inimitable rendering of "Jolly good luck to the girl who loves a soldier," accompanied by the Palace Theatre orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Herman Finck. This was a contribution that especially appealed to the audience, and was enthusiastically applauded. That humorously written playlet, "The Particular Pet," enabled Mr. Cyril Maude to distinguish himself in a clever study of an artful, raucous-voiced tramp, with a decided aversion to soap and water, and he was excellently supported by Mr. John Harwood as the tippling workhouse superintendent and Mr. Arthur Curtis as the porter Skilly. Next Miss Compton amusingly related the characteristics of "Some of My Friends," a smartly written monologue by R. C. Carton.

This was followed by a new duologue, by Robert Higginbotham, entitled "Clearly and Concisely." In this Miss Winifred Emery gave a delightfully easy and amusing impersonation of an exasperatingly fussy and muddle-headed lady who wastes hours of the valuable time of a busy City man. She arrives very late at the club, where she has made an appointment with the patient man, and when she does turn up rambles on charmingly about everything except the subject of the appointment. Just as the poor man's patience is exhausted, she tells him she wants to consult him about some amateur theatricals a friend of hers is getting up, and he is mollified. But, on referring to a letter, it appears from a postcript that the friend has abandoned the play-acting idea—and will engage a conjurer! Mr. Charles Glenney gave a clever impersonation of the man, and the amusing trifle was given a very gratifying reception. In the unavoidable absence of Mr. George Leyton, Mr. Barrington gave an excellent rendering of a song, "The National Reserve"; and later in the afternoon Mr. J. H. Barnes was heard in a fine delivery of "The Charge of the Light Brigade."

The perfect art of Miss Lottie Venne was again enjoyed to the full in that most diverting monologue, "Mrs. Rawdon's Rehearsal"; the second act of "The Turning Point" was played, Sir George Alexander repeating his irreproachable performance of Colonel Felt, Miss Maire O'Neill giving a finished and emotional portrayal of Monique, and Miss Mary Clarke appearing as Annette; and "A Slice of Life," with Miss Irene Vanbrugh as Mrs. Hyphen Browne, Mr. Gerald du Maurier as Mr. Hyphen Browne, and Miss Hilda Trevelyan as Frederica was another perfectly played and most amusing contribution. Also on the programme was "Luigi's Wife," played by Mr. Charles Vane, Miss Winifred Murray, Mr. Shiel Barry, and Miss Annie Schletter. The entire production was under the stage direction of Mr. E. Vivian Reynolds, who must have had a very busy afternoon. The souvenir programme was a really beautiful production, containing portraits of the artistes who appeared and many of the officers and others connected with the matinée, and a sketch, "A Night in the Trenches before Sebastopol," specially drawn by R. Caton Woodville. The original was sold to the highest bidder. During the afternoon Lord Arthur Hill gave a brief address.

The Edinburgh King's Theatre panto. terminated last Saturday, after a merry and successful run of six weeks. Tubby Edlin, as chief funmaker, was well liked, and many will long remember him in the burlesque Cable-car scene, and Miss Maud Murray's delightful dancing was warmly applauded. Funny Sarah Hicks and Miss Maud Esmond also made "hits," and Mr. P. L. Howat, the general-manager, saw that the pantomime ran ably and well.

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REALISM IN MODERN DRAMA.

Professor Courtney, in the interesting lecture at the Royal Society of Literature on Wednesday, which we report more fully elsewhere, said the modern drama had done much to reconcile the stage with society. It had succeeded in realism, and the result was shown by young men and women from that time onwards aspiring to a career on the boards. Sir Squire Bancroft was the first man to show the English aristocrat as he is. He showed him possessed of peculiarities and foibles, but to be by no means a fool, as he had hitherto been pictured. The characters assigned to Bancroft and his wife never varied as a whole. The careful attention to detail which marked this management, made successful the rather milk-and-water type of drama, in which Robertson excelled; but we should be grateful to Robertson, for there was no increase in realism until twenty years later. Dramatists still used the French as their model, since they were considered to be the original patentees of the correct forms of drama.

"Each age," said Mr. Courtney, "has its own particular problem, and these problems arise out of certain tendencies. The puritanical school, which was against art and all its manifestations, was indigenous with us. Drama must deal with contemporary English problems of the time, and the characters must be put before us as psychological facts reveal them. They must not be transformed by imagination, but put before us as they exist. Most men are really three-quarter mean and one-quarter noble. And most women are neither ideals to be placed in a niche, nor are they drudges. They are liable to the same temptations as men, and, besides which they have peculiar temptations of their own, which they find difficult to resist. Because of this analysis, romance disappears, and G. B. Shaw, in the one love scene in his play, 'John Bull's Other Island,' has divested his characters of every trace of romance."

Miss Ada Thomas, who made a great hit in the part of the Princess in the pantomime of "Aladdin" at Kennington Theatre this year, belongs to a well-known Truro family. Miss Thomas left Truro some years ago, and after passing through the Royal College of Music with distinction, took to the stage, and has toured extensively in musical comedy with Mr. George Edwardes and Mr. Robert Courtneidge. She made her first appearance in pantomime this year at Kennington, and her charming personality and excellent voice at once brought her to the front rank. At the closing performance of "Aladdin" on Saturday night she was encored for her rendering of "Temple bell," which she sung very sweetly, and for her other musical numbers. Miss Thomas was also the recipient of several bouquets.

The committee of the Actors' Orphanage Fund gratefully acknowledge the following contributions received during the month of January:—Subscriptions: Arthur Bourchier, £5 5s.; Miss Constance Rivington, £1 1s.; Miss Harriet Greet, 10s. 6d.; Mrs. Waterhouse, 10s. 6d.; Miss E. G. Weare, 10s.; Mrs. Garside, £1 1s.; Miss Phyllis Broughton, £1 1s.; Charles Cruikshanks, £1 1s.; Sir Squire Bancroft, £1 1s.; W. Graham Browne, 5s.; Captain Preston, £3 3s. Donations: Two or three Masonic friends of the orphanage (per J. W. Mathews), £5; King's Theatre, Glasgow (per Messrs. Howard and Wyndham), tax on free admissions, £1; Messrs. Bode and Compton (part proceeds benefit performance at Theatre Royal, Huddersfield), £1.

The penny collections are as follows:—"Merry Miss Mischief" Co. (per Miss Grace Lester), 8s. 5d.; Mr. and Mrs. Brown's Co. (per Miss Kathleen Magee), 8s. 8d.; "Humpty-Dumpty" Co. (per Miss Minnie Blanchard), 8s. 10d.; "Princess Caprice" Co. (per Miss Cicely Courtneidge) for two months, £5 5s. 4d.; "Sorrows of Satan" Co. (per Miss Loie Esmond), 12s.; "Officer 666" Co. (per Fred Forrest), £1 2s. 6d.; "Fanny's First Play" (Rignold and Macdona) Co. (per Miss Marie Rignold), 10s.; "Queen Mother" Co. (per Miss Mary Fulton), 9s. 4d.; "A Royal Divorce" Co. (per Miss Violet Ellicott), 5s. 11d.; "Hindle Wakes" (Max Allen) Co. (per Miss Kate Osborne), 3s. 9d.; Theatre Royal Stock Co., Liverpool (per Miss Florence Cameron), 12s. 10d.; "His Child Wife" Co. (per Miss Marion Wakeford), 2s. 11d.; "Mother Hubbard" Co., Glasgow (per Miss Gwennie Harcourt), £4 5s.; "Bunty Pulls the Strings" North Co. (per F. C. Pool), 17s.; "Quaker Girl" South Co. (per Miss Maud Denny), 9s. 8d.; "Ben-Hur" Co. (per Miss Mildred Cottell and B. Hatton Sinclair), £1 1s. 6d.

THE BLACK CAT CLUB.

Three new plays were produced by the "Black Cats" at the New Rehearsal Theatre, on Jan. 24. The first dramatic episode, "Contracts," by Wilfred Stephens, is a case of the "biter bitten." The bullying dancer, Jeannette, furious with her timid little assistant, Bella (with whom she has no written contract), for spoiling her "show" by nervousness, decides to sign on for pantomime alone, and thus throw the latter out of an engagement. But Bella, having found a friend in their landlady, Mrs. Tabb, and her nephew, George, a reporter on the local "Argus," checkmates Jeannette by deciding to throw up her work and remain with them, thus leaving to the dancer the problem of fulfilling her present contract without an assistant. The little piece was efficiently acted by Miss Mora Maughan as the timid Bella, and Mrs. Taunton and Miss Ruby Bashall as the villainess, Jeannette, and the sympathetic landlady.

"In War Time," a dramatic sketch by Emil Lock, served to re-introduce Miss Alma Stanley, this being the first appearance of this popular actress since her return from the States. Miss Stanley took the part of the beautiful dancer, Olenka, pursued by Colonel Sorovitch, who almost convinces her of the faithlessness of her lover, the brigand and patriot, Burgas. The subsequent visit of Burgas restores her faith, and on the advent of the Princess Thordeskic for a private view of the dancer's skill, Olenka conceals him behind a curtain, and, having gained the sympathy of the Princess, when Sorovitch returns to search the house she dances before his hiding-place, and on the departure of the Princess and the colonel the lovers are re-united. Miss Stanley was heartily welcomed on her appearance and at the end of her fascinating impersonation received some beautiful flowers. Mr. C. Fletcher was spirited as Burgas, and Mr. Wilfred Stephens and Miss Hall quite adequate to the parts of the colonel and the princess. The concluding item, "Cats," by C. King Coyne, deals in a fairly amusing style with the cat-loving Professor Percy and the successful attempts of his daughter Kitty to obtain a satisfactory step-mother in gentle Mary Primrose, rather than in the designing widow, Mrs. Jarman, so that she may be free to marry her own Adelbert. Mr. Percy Vernon as Professor Percy was quietly humorous, and other parts were filled by "Black Cats" and their friends. A miscellaneous programme, which included scenes from "The Bells," with Mr. Wilfred Stephens as Mathias, completed the evening's entertainment.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Mr. A. A. Strong, LL.B., has reached a third edition, and gives in simple language such parts of the law as relate to subjects with which the profession is concerned.—"The Financier."

Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable work "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at "The [illegible]" Offices, Tavistock-street, has reached its [illegible] edition. The author has made every effort [illegible]ing the book right up to date.—"Referee," [illegible], 1910.

[illegible]5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published at "The [illegible]ffices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL LAW.

MISS LILLAH McCARTHY AND A LUNATIC.

Before Mr. Justice Ridley at the Old Bailey on Wednesday, Percy William Collins was indicted for sending to Mrs. Granville Barker (Miss Lillah McCarthy) a letter demanding money with menaces.

Early in December Miss McCarthy received a letter, addressed from 75, Trafalgar-road, Horsham, where Collins lived with his wife and mother, and signed with prisoner's own name, in which he asked for permission to dedicate to her a new song, the words of which he had written. Through her manager Miss McCarthy sent a courteous reply, assenting to the dedication of the song to her. The next thing was that she received the letter which had already been read, and this also she gave to her manager, who handed it to the police. No answer was returned to this letter, and on Dec. 13 a second letter was received from the same address and signed with the same name. It read:—

Madam,—Unless you send me the £1,000 previously demanded I shall shoot you. . . .

On Wednesday Mrs. Granville Barker went into the witness-box, and said she did not know the prisoner, and had never seen him before this case.

The prisoner asked Mrs. Barker if she thought there was any resemblance between the writing in which he asked for permission to dedicate the song and that in which the threatening letters were written; and she replied that she would not have thought so. Medical and other evidence having been given, and the prisoner having made a statement, the jury found a verdict of guilty, but insane, and the Court ordered him to be kept in custody as a criminal lunatic until his Majesty's pleasure was known.

PANTOMIME BALL AT PLYMOUTH.

To celebrate the conclusion of the most successful of recent Plymouth pantomimes, a fancy dress ball was held at the Assembly Rooms, Plymouth, on Friday, Jan. 31, at the conclusion of the evening performance. The whole of the company were invited, in addition to which many friends of the artistes took tickets, and the scene when the ball was at its height was an extremely pretty one. Music was supplied by the magnificent string band of the Royal Garrison Artillery, and supper served by the staff of the Royal Hotel, Plymouth, in charmingly decorated rooms set apart for the purpose. Mr. James Glover presided, being supported by Mr. George R. Sims and Mr. Tom B. Davis, and upon the suggestion of the first-mentioned a collection was made on behalf of the "Referee" Children's Christmas Fund, realising the substantial sum of £12 7s. Prizes were awarded for the most artistic dresses, the prize-winners being as follow:—Miss M. Moon (Indian ayah), Miss Bedford (lady of the harem), Mr. Murley (Dutchman), and Messrs. Creo and Leo (the two tramps).

At the final performance of "Jack and Jill" on Saturday the theatre was crowded, and in the interval Mr. Glover came in front and thanked public and company alike for the wonderful success which had attended the five and a half weeks' run, informing his patrons that he had arranged with Mr. Tom B. Davis to produce "Humpty Dumpty" next year, an announcement received with prolonged applause. With reference to future engagements, Mr. Glover stated that he considered the past arrangement of two dramatic performances a night during the summer season did not become a theatre of the standing of the Royal, and it would be abandoned for the future, high-class vaudeville—commencing with the Follies—being substituted. He concluded in deep sepulchral tones that the summer programme might include a visit from the famous "Jimmy Glover and his band."

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Feb. 3, the Drama, entitled "THE COWBOY KING."

This sensational drama of West American life proved a most potent attraction here this week, and a crowded house assembled to greet Miss Mabel Lowe and her clever company on Monday evening last. Mr. Beresford Whitcomb fairly revels in the part of Montana Joe, and his robust impersonation is a thoroughly attractive one throughout. Mr. Jackson Hayes makes a dignified Red Eagle; Mr. J. Hennessy is acceptable as John Firman; Mr. Harry Morgan is delightfully naive as Mike McBride; Mr. Frank Harrison is amusing as Bob White; and Mr. Robert Moreth plays in experienced fashion as Harry Ashton. Miss Lilla Wilde enacts Flora Ashton with sympathetic effect; Miss Nellie Burdette proffers a capable rendition of Kate; whilst Miss Mabel Lowe gives a dashing and concise portrayal of La-Tu-Nah, the beloved "Morning Star." The play is finely mounted, and the scenery and effects beyond reproach. The cowboy band plays during the evening in good style, and Correa, the Mexican lariat thrower and stock whip expert, fairly bewilders the West Londoners with his marvellous feats. Mr. Ward Bailey controls the orchestra, and Mr. F. Blackmore is the new general-manager for Mr. F. R. Griffiths.

Mr. F. Edgar Manaton, who has been touring-manager with Messrs. Baring Bros. for many years, has been engaged as business-manager of the Opera House, Dudley, under the same management.

"The Masque of Learning," by Professor Patrick Geddes, which was performed before enormous audiences in Edinburgh last autumn, is to be produced on March 11 to 15 in the Great Hall of the University of London at South Kensington. There will be about five hundred performers, under the general direction of Mrs. Percy Dearmer, in the masque, which begins with the Barbarian Invasion, and stretches on through the Middle Ages to modern times, illustrating the spread of learning through ancient monasteries and universities, the great centre of the Renaissance period—Lorenzo the Magnificent, Columbus, Erasmus, the Mermaid Club, Milton and Galileo, the Encyclopædists, and the present-day educationary movements.

The funeral of Mrs. Edwin Drew (Miss Annie Parker) took place on the 30th ult., from her residence, The Elms, East Finchley, and she was buried in St. Pancras Cemetery, a short distance from her late home. The chief mourners were the husband (Mr. Edwin Drew), Mrs. Rudrum (daughter), Mr. J. H. Valda (elder son), and Mr. S. Valda (younger son). The body was borne in a Washington car, and the flowers were sufficient to hide the coffin and fill the car. Mr. Drew gave a bunch of primroses and wallflowers his wife had grown in her own garden, picked on the funeral morning, and wreaths were sent by Mr. James Faith (Savoy Hotel), Mrs. Vanson (sister), Mrs. Sims (sister), Mr. Lorang (Berlin), Mr. Warren, Mrs. White, Mrs. Rudrum contributed a whole pillow of violets, Mr. Rudrum, Mrs. Horscroft, Mr. H. Horscroft (of "The Miracle"), Mrs. Barnes, Mrs. Springer, Mr. and Mrs. Renault, Mrs. Osborne, Mr. and Mrs. Pearson, Miss M. Mullins (L.C.C.), Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Valda, Mr. and Mrs. A. Valda, Mr. and Mrs. Fisher (Brighton), Mrs. Dix (New York), and Mrs. Emily Horscroft. The service was read by the Rev. H. Hawkins, of All Saints', Highgate, a friend of Mr. and Mrs. Drew, and the body was lowered to its long rest in the family grave.

MOTOR NOTES.

A curious set of circumstances was related to us the other day by a friend who is an old-time motorist of extensive road experience, says "The Motor." Travelling along a main road, he was run into by another motor car which emerged from a side road, the driver intending to cut right across. Fortunately the damage was confined to the cars, and practically to the car that was struck. The latter having been removed to a repairer's the guilty owner-driver took the occupants of the other car to their destination, and our friend described this drive to us. He says that the driver really had no understanding of road custom or traffic rules. He was one of those men (of whom most of us have, at one time or other, met an instance) who drift over on to the wrong side of the road, keeping his pull on one side of the steering wheel (we have observed the same tendency with the helmsmen of steamers and motor boats—men who are utterly unable to keep a course). The result was that he had constantly to cross over to the correct side of the road as other vehicles came towards him, and he was even slow to appreciate his duty in this respect, drivers of oncoming cars having to hoot at him, and often to slow down. Yet the driver in question never gathered from all these occurrences that there was a possibility of his being in the wrong. He drove at a fast pace past turnings, took risks when overtaking one vehicle and meeting another, and altogether gave our informant the worst half-hour on a car that he has ever had.

To accept as good anything that looks good and is in popular favour is a too general tendency. Sometimes the good-looking thing may be true to its appearance; sometimes it may prove otherwise. Sometimes it is good only for a short while and then relapses into an undesirable condition. All of which may be applied, with an interrogation point, to nickel as a finish for automobile parts.

The question at issue is not that of the relative attractiveness of nickel and brass or the labour involved in keeping them bright. The question is whether the durability of the plating is sufficient to warrant its use. However well nickel may look when in good condition, there is nothing much shabbier than a nickled part from which the plating has been worn in spots showing the dull metal underneath. And, short as has been the vogue of nickel, there already are many cars the nickeled parts of which are so mottled by wear as to badly mar their otherwise spick and span appearance. Plain brass is preferable to nickel in such a condition, even in the eyes of those with strong leanings toward the silvery finish.

No small importance attaches to the matter of polishes when nickel is used, for under the action of the abrasives and chemicals in so-called "lightning brighteners" the plating disappears rapidly. What with natural wear and unnatural cleaning compounds, nickel seems to be due for troubles of its own. And even worse than the polishes are the cheap and easily made "plating solutions" of acid and mercury. These concoctions produce a fine bright finish which vanishes in a few hours, leaving the surface corroded from the effects of the acid. These chemical crimes are sold for plating brass and worn spots on nickeled parts.

There would appear to be only one way in which the desired silvery appearance can be both obtained and retained, viz., by making bright parts of metal of uniform colour throughout. German silver already has been somewhat extensively used for windshield frames, which simply goes to show that the inadequacy of nickel has been recognised by the makers of these things. While German silver is of insufficient strength for many automobile parts, there are metals which are superior to it in appearance and are stronger than brass; these might well be used for making parts that are to be finished bright. As to the question of cost, it will be up to the manufacturer to decide whether he will invest his cars with an evanescent brightness, incur the expense of a more costly material, or go back to brass. Certainly something should be done before manufacturers' plans have been carried so far as to make changes inconvenient and unnecessarily costly.

It is far easier to learn to drive if, to begin with, one understands that which one is going to drive. Some people have the idea that a motor car, being a machine, may be treated with impunity, as if it could not possibly go wrong; but when one considers the number of moving parts and their high speed, the various strains and stresses and all general conditions met with while on tour, it soon becomes apparent that a car may possess something akin to a "soul," which must be humoured.

To make the essence of this more clear, it may be taken as an axiom that the chief necessity for a car is for it to be treated gently, and for the engine speed to be the same as that of the clutch shaft when taking up the drive after changing gear. Supposing in ascending a hill the car is started on first gear, and a speed of about 5 m.p.h. has been attained; change into second. Now when the clutch is disengaged and the gear has been changed, the clutch shaft is revolving at approximately 500 r.p.m., so it will be clear that if the engine is turning at 800 r.p.m. a severe strain occurs when the drive is taken up. Again, if the engine is running at only 200 r.p.m. it is acting momentarily as a brake, while when acceleration takes place all the lost motion in the transmission has to be made good, this last also occasioning a severe strain and usually much noise. Therefore it is apparent that the speed of the engine must agree with that of the clutch shaft when the clutch is let in after gear changing, and as the drive is taken up and the motor tends to slow down, the accelerator pedal must be operated to maintain the engine speed: in other words, the accelerator should go down as the clutch pedal comes up, the two actions synchronising.

After gear changing never take the foot entirely off the clutch pedal until the engine has attained a speed which will prevent all bumping or labouring. If the engine is given to missing at any time, or it is desirable to travel slower than usual on top gear, it will be found beneficial to keep just the weight of the foot on the clutch pedal, not enough to make the clutch slip, but just to steady the engine. This action has the effect of stopping all clattering caused by backlash and also assists the motor to pick up better. In changing speed always declutch about half-way and put the lever gently into the required position. Let it, as it were, feel its way and never "bang" it in. Act quickly, but not in a hurry. If it so happens that the reverse gear is difficult to get in, put the first gear in and let the car move forward a yard or two, and while it is just moving change into reverse, when it will be found to go in quite easily. With a four-speed gearbox the times to change are, approximately, from first to second at 5 m.p.h., from second to third at 8 m.p.h., and from third to fourth at 12 m.p.h. These speeds must be increased 3 or 4 m.p.h. each when ascending a hill. On some cars, of course, the top speed may be used at a much lower speed, but the above table may be taken as an average.

Never strain a car; when the engine begins to labour on a hill, change down; if the motor begins to knock at a speed of anything higher than 15 or 20 m.p.h. on a hill, partially close the throttle and it will pull just as well, and usually the knocking will cease.

Always use the side brake when descending hills; in town one does not always have time to do so, and otherwise it would never get used at all. Another reason is because the side brake causes no strain on the transmission, whereas the footbrake does. If it be thought that the application of the brakes may cause the car to skid, leave the clutch in, and if there is a tendency to skid in spite of this, always turn the steering wheel in the direction that the back part of the car is skidding. If the front wheels skid whilst turning, straighten up the wheel a little and apply the brake very gently. A good idea for people who are learning to drive is to take the car to a nice quiet, wide greasy road and make it skid, afterwards doing their best to stop it in the manner described.

Final advice to the learner may be summed up in the words—"Go slow!"

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

The Russian Ballet made their welcome reappearance in Mr. Beecham's present season on Tuesday night, and, needless to say, were cordially received by a splendid audience. On this occasion a new ballet, "Pétrouchka," was produced for the first time, along with two old favourites, "Thamar" and "Les Sylphides." "Pétrouchka" is in four tableaux burlesque scenes, by MM. Igor Stravinsky, and Alexandre Renois, music by M. Igor Stravinsky; scenes and dances composed and arranged by M. Fokin; scenery and costumes designed by M. Alexandre Benois; scenery executed by M. Anisfeld. The idea of the doll imbued with human attributes is already familiar. This time, however, it appears as a very ferocious character, meeting with a tragic end. In the middle of the carnival festivities an old showman astonishes the public by producing his animated dolls—Pétrouchka, the dancer, and the Moor—who execute a wild dance. The showman, a magician, has endowed his puppets with human passions; Pétrouchka is the most gifted in this respect, and hence he suffers more than the Dancer and the Moor. He resents his slavery and exclusion from every-day life, and his ridiculous appearance. He consoles himself with his love for the dancer, but she is alarmed by his odd manners. The life of the Moor is different—he is stupid and wicked, but the Dancer is attracted by his gorgeous appearance, and succeeds in captivating him; but Pétrouchka arrives, maddened by jealousy, and is soon driven off by the Moor. The carnival fête is at its height. A merchant comes along and distributes handfuls of bank notes to the crowd, and, finally, a band of masqueraders arrive and whirl everybody off in a mad dance. All at once screams are heard from the showman's little theatre. The rivalry between the Moor and Pétrouchka takes a tragic turn; the puppets rush out of the theatre, the Moor strikes Pétrouchka down with his sabre, and Pétrouchka dies surrounded by the crowd. The showman, who has been fetched by a policeman, quiets the crowd, and in his hands Pétrouchka again becomes a doll. The crowd disperses, and the showman, left alone, sees, to his terror, the spectre of Pétrouchka, who threatens him, and mocks at all whom the showman has duped. The story is very quaint, and it is hard to believe the dolls are anything but wood as performed by Mlle. Karsavina, M. Nijinsky, and M. Kotchetovski. The music of M. Stravinsky is well adapted to the subject. The conductor was M. Pierre Monteux. "Thamar" is familiar. Mlle. Karsavina and M. Bolm again appeared as the principal characters; Mr. Thomas Beecham conducted this work. "Les Sylphides" came last in the programme. It is a charming feature of the Ballet's efforts, and beautifully illustrates the music of Chopin in a good selection from that composer's work. Mlle. Karsavina and M. Nijinsky were seen again in this number, and, with the other members of the Ballet, were awarded a most hearty reception; and Mr. Pierre Monteux conducted. The Russian Ballet may be complimented on their brilliant first night of the season.

The curtain rang down on the pantomime, "Aladdin," at Kennington Theatre, on Saturday night, amidst a scene of great enthusiasm. A crowded audience called Miss Norah Delaney (Aladdin), Miss Ada Thomas (the Princess), Mr. Clifford Morgan (Abanazar), Mr. Arthur Staples (Widow Twankey), Wheeler and Berkeley (Policemen), Miss Lily Vine (Pekoe), Miss May Erne (Ni-cee), and Mr. Ernie Chester (Grand Vizier) before the curtain repeatedly, and finally joined in the singing of "Auld Lang Syne," hands being linked up from the stage to the stalls and back to the stage again.

The principals were practically "snowed under" with bouquets, and at the conclusion of the performance, Mr. Sidney Watson, who had produced the pantomime with considerable credit, was presented by Miss Delaney, on behalf of the members of the company, with a gold signet ring. Appreciative references were made to the spirit of comradeship which had existed throughout the whole run of the pantomime. Great credit is due to Mr. Percy Downing, who has been responsible for the orchestration since the first two weeks.

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THEATRICAL MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION.

An interesting revue of the work of the Theatrical Managers' Association was given at the annual meeting, which was held for the first time in the Adelaide Room, Gatti's Restaurant, on Thursday afternoon. Mr. Cyril Maude presided, and there were also present Sir Herbert Tree, Messrs. F. W. Warden (hon. treasurer), J. B. Mulholland, Tom B. Davis, J. M. Glover, J. F. Elliston, Milton Bode, Wentworth Croke, Dudley Bennett, J. W. Boughton, W. B. Redfern, Blaiberg, H. W. Rowland, Fred Fredericks, Payne Seddon, Graham Falcon, Ernest Dottridge, J. Alban Newton, J. F. Graham, Wm. Bailey, Oscar Barrett, T. C. Wray, J. Hedderwick (solicitor), and Herbert Blackmore (secretary).

THE PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.

The Chairman, who was heartily applauded, said: Gentlemen, In rising to speak to you, I do so with great diffidence, bred of a knowledge of what experts in all matters connected with the theatre I am addressing, and in the remarks I am about to make, I doubt if I shall be able to put forward any thing fresh, anything that you are not already cognisant of in every detail. The annual report and treasurer's account have been circulated to the members, and I presume it is the wish of the meeting that they should be taken as read. I earnestly trust, however, that the members have found time to read the document, as I think it shows a record of a year's useful work.

A NOTE OF SADNESS.

In moving the first resolution to-day, namely, that the report and accounts be adopted, I regret to have to begin with a note of sadness at the loss the Association has sustained by deaths. I refer particularly to our dear friends, Mr. J. M. Chute and Mr. Edward Terry. Mr. Chute has been associated with this Association and its predecessor for, I think, nearly thirty years. During the whole period, up to a year ago, he held the position of honorary treasurer. Notwithstanding that it is sometimes a position of some difficulty, Mr. Chute I know endeared himself to all of us. Kind-hearted, good, a thorough gentleman in the very best sense of that much abused word, an honour to our profession and an example we cannot do ill in following, we deplore his loss, but take a pride in the memory of his distinguished and unblemished career as a man and as a theatre manager.

Dear Edward Terry was also associated with us for a great many years as vice-president, and the Association was frequently indebted to him for his assistance in that capacity. His genial level-headedness and shrewd knowledge of men made him a great asset to any association or committee, and his kindness of heart and a nature unspoilt by his successes in life endeared him to all.

To the memory of Sir Edward Moss I am proud also that it is my duty to pay a tribute of greatest respect and warm regard. He was a most kind and thoughtful friend to me personally during the last six years of my life, and nothing I could say could express sufficiently the regret I feel at his loss, or how much I feel the Association has lost in him, a good, kind friend.

In the death of Penley, too, that genial comedian and successful manager and good fellow, we have suffered a great loss. Four good gentlemen of whom any Association might have been proud gone from us, but leaving behind them good names for honesty and hard work, names in the memory of which we are spurred on every day to a fresh determination to make our Association a still firmer and more undoubted success. Good, honourable names, of which we can be proud and *are* proud.

Another loss to deplore, too, for towards the middle of last year Sir Herbert Tree resigned the position of President, which he held for over eight years, and although he has seceded, if I may say so, from this chair, he is still with us, I am happy to say, as a member of the Council, and I am assured will be always ready with his well-known tact and his wit (a useful combination, gentlemen) to assist us in any way possible.

INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP.

I am happy to say that during the year the Association has been greatly strengthend by the addition of several new members, viz., Mr. Oscar Asche, Mr. Michael Faraday, Mr. Charles Frohman, Mr. J. M. Glover, Mr. Oscar Hammerstein, Mr. Martin Harvey, Mr. Albert Archdeacon, Mr. J. C. Williamson, and several others. Mr. Frohman, Mr. Michael Faraday, and Mr. Tom B. Davis have been added to the Council, and Mr. Arthur Bourchier and Mr. W. B. Redfern have been elected as vice-presidents to serve in conjunction with Mr. Mulholland and Mr. Elliston.

MORE FREQUENT MEETINGS.

We have held four general meetings during the year and eight Council meetings, and although this, in my humble opinion, is not enough, it is, I am informed, a greater number than have been held in previous years. On your kindly election of me to this chair it occurred to me that it would very much add to the usefulness of the Association and the regularity of its proceedings if, instead of meetings being held at more or less odd times, or when it seemed convenient to the officials to do so, we had monthly meetings on a specified day, and after a consultation with the vice-presidents and my colleagues, we decided to hold the meetings as near as possible on the first Thursday in every month. This, of course, is a tax upon the time of the members of the Council, but I am convinced it is a more convenient and businesslike method of conducting the affairs of the Association. On some occasions there may not be much business to transact, but in that event the meeting will not take long. It seems to me much better to meet frequently than at long intervals. It will also enable members to submit through the secretary any points which they require to be dealt with by the Council, and I think they will take advantage of the opportunity. We are here every first Thursday in the month to discuss any matters which affect the general body and welfare of our business, and as we meet more constantly and get to know each other better freedom of speech becomes more general, and no member is shy of speaking his mind. Already our Council meetings are excellent—well attended, businesslike, and thorough.

FINANCE.

I now turn to the accounts of the Association, and in doing so I feel we ought to express our great thanks and appreciation of the work of our hon. treasurer, Mr. F. W. Warden, for his attention to our financial affairs, which, after all, constitute the all important substratum of every society. It will be seen that we started the year with a good balance in hand, apart from our investments. Our receipts have been slightly less than last year, owing to some few theatres having fallen out through change of ownership and other causes, but this is only a temporary matter, as I have reason to believe that these theatres will be restored to our list.

On the other hand, our expenses have been greater than last year, but there are special reasons for this. We have given financial assistance in connection with litigation to the extent of about £50 during the year. We also incurred some considerable expenditure in getting out the pamphlets on the Insurance Act, and which I will refer to later. As against this, the expenses of our solicitors, for some reason which I do not quite understand, are £10 less than last year. The net result is an expenditure exceeding our income, but this is only on account of the special expenditure above referred to, and I have no hesitation in saying that our financial position is a good one.

The National Insurance Act has to answer for the expense incurred in explanation of its intricacies by our solicitor's clever and concise pamphlet, and I can personally testify to the enormous amount of care and thought which Mr. Hedderwick bestowed upon this matter. He lunched with me one day specially to discuss it paragraph by paragraph. I have a vivid memory of that long three-hour lunch.

CHARITABLE PERFORMANCES AT THEATRES.

You are aware that we have decided that on lending or letting our theatres for charitable performances, 10 per cent. of the gross receipts is in future to be asked by us for our theatrical charities. This we have every reason to hope may in time prove a great asset for those institutions.

THE VALUE OF THE ASSOCIATION.

Gentlemen, we regular workers on the Association Council feel we have in this Association a very strong and important body of members representing most thoroughly the interests, the wide and varied interests, of the theatre of Great Britain. The provision of amusement and interest for the Englishman has never been more varied, has never been given so much scope before. The theatre of England provides for the public the opportunity of witnessing a great variety of different kinds of refined as well as unrefined dramatic work. I know theatres managed by such men as yourselves give employment to a large number of all classes, from the student tragedian to the property man, and the management of such places is, as you know, no light task, involving, as it does, an infinitude of tact and shrewd businesslike qualities, as well as a great amount of pluck and foresight. Such qualities naturally give rise in the manager to much anxiety, for each manager in his own theatre lives, so to speak, to a certain extent, a *lonely* life. It is the fate of the boss in all matters of life. Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown. Now, this Association is primarily designed to minimise such loneliness. Here among ourselves we can take counsel and receive advice. Rough ways are made so much smoother by comradeship. A big storm at sea does not seem nearly so terrible when there are plenty of others in the cabin with you.

This Association is for defence, not offence. And there is already among us, I maintain, a great feeling of genuine friendship and comradeship which cannot help growing and becoming of enormous value to us all as workers in a fascinating but, of course, extremely hazardous calling. I do hope every member will bring his troubles here and thrash them out through the Association instead of grizzling over them at home. Co-operation has enormous power, and we who are on the Council are anxious to co-operate. I must apologise for keeping you so long, and beg to move the adoption of this annual report and accounts

The report and accounts were duly adopted, and other business was disposed of.

Subsequently the members of the Association dined together at the restaurant, Mr. Cyril Maude again presiding.

ITALIAN PLAYS AT COSMOPOLIS.

The Foreign Theatre Society, founded under the auspices of Cosmopolis, is thoroughly justifying its existence, and large and appreciative audiences on Sunday afternoon and evening last followed with close attention the performances of the patriotic drama, "Romanticisms," excellently presented by the Italian section of the society. For this production, scenery had been specially painted by Signor E. Papini, who took the part of the traitorous secretary, Cezky, and the setting of the first act in Ausperti's pharmacy was particularly realistic and beautiful, and made the very most of the small space at command. Praise must also be given to the dressing of the parts which, by its artistic completeness, materially aided the atmosphere of the piece. Signor A. Poli, as the patriotic Conte Vitaliano Lamberti, was always equal to the demands made upon him, his speech in act I. being given with telling effect. Conte G. Capasso Torre gave a good picture of the courtly diplomat, Il Conte Di Rienz, and Signor Tanini was a gay and irresponsible Giacomino d'Arfo. As the mother of Lamberti, Signa L. Polenglu was dignified and dainty, and Signa G. Montini acted with charming intelligence and fire as the wife, Anna. Other members of a long cast were the "conspirators" of the first act, played capitally by Signore G. Ribera, U. Sala, A. Carreras, F. Maternini, and O. Ascoli, and the pathetic Giuditta Ansperti of Signa A. Cagna.

BRITISH EMPIRE SHAKESPEARE SOCIETY.

The Weston-super-Mare branch of the British Empire Shakespeare Society gave three performances of "Twelfth Night" on Friday and Saturday, Jan. 31 and Feb. 1, at Knightstone Pavilion and Opera House, Weston-super-Mare. All three performances were well patronised by fashionable audiences, who were very enthusiastic in their appreciation. Taken ensemble, the representation of the piece must be voted a big success. The onus of the production fell on the shoulders of Mr. Acton Bond, who for some considerable time gave the artistes the benefit of his ripe experience, and he was no doubt highly pleased at the way they acquitted themselves. A youthful and very charming actress is Miss Dorothy Scull, whose portrayal of Viola came as a revelation. Mrs. Sydney Smith has done excellent work in the past, but nothing to equal her delineation of Olivia. Maria found an able exponent in Mrs. J. H. Bere, who must be given the highest eulogy. Mr. W. G. Harrison, except for too exaggerated a strut, was a capital Malvolio. It would be impossible to speak too highly of Mr. F. W. Bere's Sir Toby Belch; Mr. E. Avera, who has had years of experience in Shakespearean rôles, spoke his lines as Antonio as only an artist can. A special word of praise must be given Mr. R. N. Green-Armytage as Orsino. Mr. T. W. Williams was not happily cast as Feste, but did his best with the part; as Sebastian, Mr. Leslie J. Fursland is entitled to encomiums, and so, too, is Mr. A. E. Catford for his Sir Andrew Aguecheek. Mr. L. Willett filled a gap and sang the songs in the piece with rare expression; and Mr. W. Cope Procter did well as the Sea Captain. Mr. A. Baker (Curio), Mr. R. W. Lutley (Fabian), and Mr. R. A. Hirst (Priest) were all good in their respective characters. The scenery and costumes were excellent.

Mr. Philip Braham's company, "The March Hares," are presenting new and original musical mixtures and burlesque at the New Theatre, Cambridge. The company includes Messrs. Davy Burnaby, John Latham, Bernard Ansell, Philip Braham at the Piano, Miss Bijou Dreno, Fay Lonnen, and Maud Aston.

On the occasion of their benefit at the Theatre Royal, Cardiff, The Dunvilles, who have been appearing in Mr. Arthur Carlton's pantomime at that house, were presented with a nice gift from the proprietor. The same evening their little daughter, who has been appearing in one of Fred Dunville's numbers through the pantomime, introduced successfully one of her mother's songs, "Keep on swinging me, Charlie." The youngster, who showed much promise, was also made happy with a gift from Mr. Carlton.

DEATH OF EDMUND TEARLE.

By the death of Mr. Edmund Tearle, which occurred on Tuesday morning at Brighton, the stage loses one of the last disciples of the robustly distinct school, and one whose conscientious work did much in the late Victorian Era to foster a love of Shakespeare and the "legit" in the provinces. He kept alive, too, the interest in the plays of Sheridan Knowles, long after Adelaide Neilson, with Henry Neville and Hermann Vezin, revived "The Hunchback" at the Adelphi. The modern critic would regard "Virginius" as fustian, but Edmund Tearle always made it welcome, and the part of the noble Roman father was almost as great a favourite with him as the barbarian in Mrs. Lovell's play, "Ingomar," which Mary Anderson revived at the Lyceum in 1883, or as Richard the Third. It was in a revival of "Richard the Third" that the deceased actor opened a London season in the spring of 1892. He kept going in the provinces the popularity of "Belphegor," long after the death of Charles Dillon, who immortalised the character. Macbeth, Brutus in "Julius Cæsar," Shylock, the melancholy Jaques, Othello, and Falstaff were among his most noted character impersonations. It was during the second week of his engagement at the Middlesex, commencing Dec. 2, that he caught a chill during the twice-nightly presentation of "The Merry Wives," and this caused an attack of jaundice, followed by complications. One of his most interesting revivals was that of John Banim's play, "Damon and Pythias," in which Mr. Ellis Lever was associated with him, and a most cherished experience was his association with Mme. Ristori when she toured the United States in "Macbeth," the English actor playing the guilty Thane.

Occasionally Mr. Edmund Tearle starred at a suburban theatre. He acted very finely, we remember, in a reproduction of Robert Buchanan's fine melodrama, "Stormbeaten," at the Pavilion, Mile End, when the fame of dear old Ike Cohen as stage-manager made theatre-goers in the West call the Whitechapel house the Drury Lane of the East. Of late years Mr. Tearle found melodrama more profitable than Shakespeare, and included in his repertory "The Three Musketeers," "It's Never Too Late to Mend," "Jeanie Deans," "The Octoroon," and "East Lynne." For many years he was supported by Miss Kate Clinton as his leading lady. He became proprietor of the Theatre Royal, Sheffield, in 1889, and of the Queen's Theatre, Longton, in 1890, but relinquished both houses in 1893. He was in his fifty-ninth year, having been born on Oct. 24, 1856. He died, after a short illness, from cancer on the liver, at 2, Hampton-place, Brighton, in the presence of his wife and children. The funeral is fixed for to-day at 12.30 at Brighton.

[*Photo. by London Stereoscopic Co.*

THE LATE EDMUND TEARLE.

EDMUND TEARLE.

BY ONE WHO KNEW HIM.

With "Ted" Tearle passes away the last of the Shakespearean "legitimate" repertory school of actor-managers. For thirty years he had toured the United Kingdom, taking in the principal suburban theatres of the metropolis with a comprehensive feast of tragedy, which included "Hamlet," "Othello," "Julius Cæsar" (in which he played Brutus), "Virginius," "King Lear," "Richard III," and so on. But although observing many of the characteristics of what is described as the "old school," Tearle associated them with eminently modern methods. He was essentially a business man when regarding the inevitable business side of his art, and however lax he may have been in the conservation of his own when faced by the claims of friendship and the pressing necessities of his brethren, he rarely made a false step where commercial perspicacity was the chief requisite. It is fashionable and modern to speak of the "old school," but Tearle took the view that there was a new theatre-going generation growing up every year, and that with the steady growth of education in the country, the production of the great classics of drama and literature could never stale. He held that in a workaday community like many of those in Lancashire and Yorkshire, in the Potteries and the Midlands, the fairly cultured masses have no time for the careful study of Shakespeare in book form, and that they would appreciate and more and more readily assimilate his great works through stage representation. The people came round to his way of thinking. They looked forward to an intellectual treat when his bills went up on the walls, and they began to encourage the younger generation in the anticipation. It is not too much to say that in very great measure the keen appreciation of Shakespeare's works that one finds amongst the masses in our industrial centres and the larger part of the actual knowledge of his works they possess are due to the efforts during the last quarter of a century of the actor who now lies dead. It can be said of Tearle, as it can be said of few contemporary actors, that he was one of the real educational forces of his time.

At the same time, Edmund Tearle always endeavoured to keep his finger regularly applied to the pulse of his public. From long experience he knew pretty well what they wanted (no one better) in this district or in that, and he was a thorough believer in letting them have their heart's desires—at any rate, in things theatrical. Accordingly, he was constantly adding to his repertory so as to be able to supply the market; and, to satisfy the occasional craving for picturesque romance, he added to his bill such plays as "The Three Musketeers," "The Prodigal Son," and the like. Later on he floated into the music hall programme now and then when his business acumen led him to believe that some portion of his public were developing a partiality for the cheaper-seated home of entertainment, and he was always certain of a warm welcome for his snatches from the classics and the romantic dramas.

Edmund Tearle had had very little real experience of acting when he first went to America in association with his cousin, Osmond (George) Tearle. Primarily, his office on that occasion was to look after the commercial end of the stick and apply his wits to the management of the venture. He soon commenced to act, however, and, having a remarkably resonant and musical voice of great volume, and a handsome, erect stage presence, it was not long before he was sharing the star parts with his more experienced relative. Then came the parting of the ways—who shall say now whether or no there was any sort of feeling about there being one too many Richmonds in the field?—and Edmund came back to England and commenced a series of most successful tours as an undoubted leading tragedian of the provinces. One great advantage he had for many years in his struggles was the companionship and professional assistance of his charming wife, known to the world as Miss Kate Clinton, a leading lady of great ability and considerable personal attraction and magnetism; and as the years went on he was able to rely upon splendid assistance from their daughter and their two sons.

Always of a speculative turn of mind, Tearle from time to time dabbled in many industrial enterprises, but he did not talk much about them, even amongst his friends, and whether they turned out successful or the reverse few outside his immediate family ever learned. Occasionally he took over the control of a provincial theatre, but though he generally "made good" with them he did not retain them long, preferring to rely upon his own individual abilities and the roving life that enabled him to keep constantly in touch with the large circle of sterling friends he made in every town he visited. In 1889 he took over the Theatre Royal, Sheffield, and as an effort of enterprise brought Charles Arnold and the play, "Hans, the Boatman," which had been originally produced at that house, and half the company all the way from Rice Lake, Canada, to keep the old theatre open for a fortnight in the July of a hot summer. Fortune favoured him, for an unexpected rainy season set in, and his bank balance was bulged out not inconsiderably. As an evidence of his versatility, however, it must be recorded that he produced a pantomime that year which was one of the most successful ever seen in the town, and netted several thousands of pounds from it. Subsequently he took the Theatre Royal, Longton, in Staffordshire, and quite recently he became the proprietor of the Theatre Royal, Kilmarnock.

Socially Tearle was classed a rattling good fellow—never behind the door when there was anything to be done for charity; always ready with as much practical assistance as sympathetic advice when a fallen friend called upon him; retaining the genuine affection of all who came intimately in contact with him; rarely losing a friend, and never creating a real enemy. No man in his profession ever enjoyed more genuine regard or possessed it from a larger number of men and women, and no one similarly circumstanced ever left the world amidst such real regret from so large a circle.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I am one of the many who have heard with deep regret of the death of that gifted tragedian, Edmund Tearle.

Gifted as he was as an actor—as a man he stood head and shoulders above any company of people I ever saw him in. His family adored him; of his artistes all respected, and many loved him.

In his world, like our late King in his larger one, he might fitly have been called "The Peacemaker," so much did the order and peace of his surroundings owe to his broad-minded and large-hearted personality.—Yours faithfully,

ONE OF THE CROWD.

Feb. 6, 1913.

"A LOVE PASSAGE."

Comedy, in One Act, Adapted from W. W. Jacobs' story by W. W. Jacobs and Philip E. Hubbard, Produced at a matinée at the Little Theatre, on Monday, Feb. 3.

Captain Alsen ..... Mr. Arthur Hatherton
Jack Hall ..... Mr. Campbell Gullan
Sam Bross ..... Mr. Stewart Dawson
Hetty Alsen ..... Miss Esmé Hubbard

The above amusing little piece was produced at the Little Theatre on Monday at a matinée for the benefit of the building fund for the chapel and right wing of St. Saviour's Priory, Haggerston. Mr. Jacobs' story is of the skipper of a steamship which is moored in the Pool of London when the action commences. Captain Alsen prides himself on his "managing" powers, and when his daughter Hetty refuses to marry a wealthy but ugly pork merchant, and prefers a certain detrimental clerk, Alsen orders her aboard his ship for a voyage on which, the pork merchant's portrait being kept always before her eyes, she may change her mind and come to care for him. The first officer of the vessel, Jack Hall, is in love with Hetty; and when she suggests to him that he shall plaster the pork merchant's portrait with mustard he does so, much to the astonishment of the captain, who imagines that his mate has gone mad. A flirtation between Hall and Hetty follows, and the captain sees him kiss her; so, to put a stop to the affair, he alludes at the tea-table and in Hetty's presence to a certain mythical sweetheart of Hall's, Hetty showing disgust and indignation at the news. She disbelieves Hall's protestations of innocence, and he revenges himself on the diplomatic skipper by allusions to an equally imaginary young woman with whom Alsen has been "carrying on." As Mrs. Alsen is a very jealous woman, and the captain is afraid of her, Hetty's threat to tell her mother of his behaviour terrifies the captain, and eventually Hetty and Hall become engaged. The little piece, full of the most natural and spontaneous humour, was capitally played by Miss Esmé Hubbard, who hit of the quick-tempered but piquant character of Hetty Alsen admirably, and played the part in a lively and attractive style; by Mr. Arthur Hatherton, who gave a characteristic representation of the elderly captain; by Mr. Campbell Gullan, who was easy, bold, and insinuating as Jack Hall; and by Mr. Stewart Dawson, who was realistically "oily" as the ship's steward, Sam Bross. The single scene was neatly supplied, and the piece, which was produced by the authors, won well-deserved applause. It was followed by an agreeable entertainment given by the Popinjays.

AN AMUSING CORRESPONDENCE.

Mr. J. Pitt Hardacre in his peregrinations recently came across Mr. Kennedy Allen, who, with great delight, showed the following correspondence between himself and Mr. Martin Harvey. Mr. Pitt Hardacre, who has always held the view that tragic actors were congenial and sportive in private, regards the letters as confirming his idea.

(COPY.)

TO MR. MARTIN HARVEY.

DEAR SIR,—As one "Legit" to another, as you are following us, I think it only fair that you should advise your principal, Mr. Martin Harvey, that "Hitchey Coo," "Alexander's rag-time band," "The ten-pound-note gag," and "Why do the girls run after me" have been done already by us.

Trusting you will reciprocate if ever you should precede us, yours in good fellowship,

KENNEDY ALLEN,
Producer "Babes in the Wood" pantomime.
Theatre Royal, Bournemouth, Jan. 11, 1913.

(COPY.)

DEAR SIR,—I thank you for your kind advice as to omitting "Hitchey Coo," "The ten-pound-note gag," &c., from my repertory. The above list gives the dates of our tour, and in case we precede you in any place, I cordially reciprocate by advising you against following us with either "Hamlet," "Œdipus Rex," "The Taming of the Shrew," or "Pelleas and Melisande," as we intend to present these seasonable specialities.—Yours reciprocally,

MARTIN HARVEY.
Theatre Royal, Bournemouth, Jan. 14, 1913.

SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 3, the Drama, in Three Acts, Entitled

"ROGUES OF THE TURF."

This excellent racing drama had a most cordial reception on its production on Monday last. It was performed in a very capable manner by the popular stock company organised by Mr. Fred Baugh, and headed by that well-known actor, Mr. John F. Preston, who presented a clever study of the old trainer, Joe Flaxman. Mr. Clifford Marle gave a clever performance of Arthur Somerton. The three rogues of the turf were well acted by Mr. Alexander Bradley as Captain Dudley Clifton, Mr. Herbert Lewis an amusing Moses Solomons, and Mr. Fred Richards as Jen Strongarm. Mr. Frank Denis acquitted himself with marked ability as Sir Gerald Heathcote; Roy Lorraine did well as Steve Burton, and Mr. Percy Emery was good as the lawyer Dawson. The lighter portion of the play was well performed by Mr. Fred Lane as Sammy Flaxman, and Miss Cissie Clark as Phyllis Wurzel; these two artistes kept the audience in a merry mood. As the adventuress, Marion, Lady Heathcote, Miss May Emery was most successful; this artiste is well adapted to characters of this description. Miss Doris Whyte was a charming and dainty Nellie Flaxman. Mr. Adderly Howard and Arthur West were very good as Rogers, a waiter, and Williams, a policeman. The drama was well mounted. The bioscope depicted some amusing pictures on the screen.

At the Grand Theatre, Mansfield, this week Mr. J. A. Campbell's company is playing "The Queen Mother." The company includes Miss Mary Fulton, Miss Etter Arnold, Miss Lina Nazeby, Miss Laurie Potter, Miss Ruth Zillwood, Messrs. Richard Bosco, Herbert Mansfield, Frank Strickland, Wm. Lenton, John Locke, Arthur Denton, Eric Morden, Douglas Tremayne, Wilton Reed, John Rimmer, and Master Frank Beresford.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

Correspondents will please note that it is absolutely necessary that all copy should reach us on Wednesday mornings by first post.

WIMBLEDON THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 3, the Musical Comedy, entitled "THE PINK LADY."

The pantomime having run its allotted time with emphatic success, Mr. Mulholland has commenced his spring season, starting with the above sparkling production as presented by Mr. P. M. Faraday's company. The comedy in the play is abundant, and of the best quality, while the musical numbers from the pen of Ivan Caryll are throughout tuneful and melodious. Intensely humorous is that very popular comedian, Mr. Fred Wright, jun., in the part of Philippe Dondidier, the dealer in antiques, who transforms himself for the nonce into a "satyr," which was the title of the French piece on which this version is founded. He is not seen in the first act, but assuredly makes up for it in the second and third, and is well supported by Miss Mabel Durrant, whose clever acting as his wife was excellent. Miss Hilda Vining looks handsome, is bright and lively, and sings and dances charmingly in the name-part, Claudine, the Pink Lady. Another success is gained by Miss Gladys Beech as Angela, the sweetheart of Lucien Garadil (pleasingly played by Mr. Percy Carr), and her vocal efforts are deservedly popular with the audience. Mr. Walter Cross was most merry as Bébé Guingolph, her cousin, who shows he is possessed of considerable *savoir faire* beneath his "boobyish" exterior. The acting of Mr. Robert Blythe as Maurice d'Uzac, who aspires to the hand of Angele, was all that could be desired. Mr. Barron H. Alford as Poliet, the keeper of the "Le Joli Coucou" restaurant, was droll, while his wife, Serpolette, looked pretty as presented by Miss Rhoda Gordon. Most delightful was the delicate dancing of Miss Mynie May, and Mr. Frank Alltree as Benevol was a comical detective. Miss Joan Keddie sang very pleasingly as La Comtesse de Montanvert, and the smaller parts of the photographer by Mr. John Maxwell, the hungry and deaf man by Mr. Jack Ricketts, Dondidier's clerk by Mr. Marshall Sheppard, his assistant Grapote by Mr. Harold Liscombe, Dr. Mazou by Mr. George Paulton were all in the safe hands of competent actors. The costumes were particularly rich and gorgeous, and the chorus was a handsome one. The augmented orchestra was conducted by Mr. Henry Waller, and Mr. Charles Thornburn is the general-manager for Mr. Faraday. Special attention should be given to an important alteration at this theatre, the date of the weekly matinée being changed from Wednesday to Thursday to suit the wishes of numerous patrons.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 3, the Play, entitled "MILESTONES."

Messrs. Vedrenne and Eadie's excellent company paid a welcome return visit and has commanded good houses all the week. Mr. Frederick Groves, as John Rhead, is excellent alike as the ambitious young man, the rather pompous master of middle-age, and the old baronet of 1912—never overdoing either epoch, but giving a real impersonation of the man, who "in his time plays many parts." Miss Muriel Pope succeeded in looking charming as Gertrude Rhead in the first act, the crinoline costume even being becoming to her, and the contrast in manner and make-up of the last act is a triumph for this clever actress. Mr. Patric Curwen, as Sam Sibley, is good and gives much effect to the scene with his partner in the first act, and his rendering of the unsuccessful man in the second act is well done. The Rose Sibley of Miss Marie Wright is an excellent performance throughout, the girlishness of the early play being succeeded by a sprightly yet matronly wife and a typical sweet old lady in the last act. Mr. Ernest Graham, as Ned Pym, afterwards Lord Monkhurst, puts the requisite amount of humour into his impersonation, and carefully suggests the would-be "funny man" of the period. Mr. John Howell acts earnestly and forcibly as Arthur Preece, the engineer and Labour M.P. His scenes with Emily Rhead are sympathetically and naturally acted. Miss Grace Croft is excellently fitted for the part of Emily, and as Lady Monkhurst in the 1912 period wears a splendid and becoming gown. Miss Dorothy Wood, as Nancy Sibley, extracts some real humour from the part of the outspoken wife of Sam Sibley; and Mr. J. Killner is quietly effective as the manservant, Thompson. Mr. Gordon Ash, as the younger Lord Monkhurst, is as abrupt and bored as the present-day aristocrat is supposed to be; and Miss Barbara Neville, in a charming frock, is wayward yet winning as the Hon. Muriel Pym. The entire production is carried by the company, and the changes effected by time and fashion in the adornment of the Kensington drawing-room are faithfully represented in the scenery and furniture.

THE BROADWAY, NEW CROSS.

On Monday, Feb. 3, the comedy, entitled "CHARLEY'S AUNT."

"Charley's Aunt," as everyone knows, is still running, and the old lady, hale and hearty as ever, is paying us another visit in Deptford this week after a somewhat prolonged absence. The piece scarcely seems to have aged at all, and is drawing excellent audiences. Mr. Brandon Thomas's company perform the evergreen play with a verve and swing which is irresistible in its effect. Mr. Charles Windermere is capital in the part made famous by the late Mr. W. S. Penley, and secures a laugh with almost every line. His Lord Fancourt Babberley is quite the success of the evening. Miss Ada Ferrar is a stately and kindly Donna Lucia. Mr. James Page is a comic and portly lawyer as Stephen Spettigue. Mr. Lawrence Anderson as Jack Chesney, and Mr. F. T. Cooper as Charles Wykeham both present us with realistic and faithful portraits of lively young Oxford undergraduates. Miss Florence Saunders plays nicely as Kitty Verdun, and Miss Vera Cornish is well placed as Amy Spettigue. Miss Pauline Hugen is a dainty and charming little Ela Delahay. Mr. Theo McCausland Stewart is a brisk and soldierly Colonel Sir Francis Chesney. Mr. Sydney Compton supplies a capital character sketch of the imperturbable college scout Brassett. The *lever de rideau* is Mr. Brandon Thomas's one-act play, "The Colour-Sergeant," in which Miss Pauline Hugen, Miss Nancy Harding, Mr. Sydney Compton, Mr. F. T. Cooper, Mr. Walter Bannister, and Mr. James Page are all seen to advantage. Mr. Cecil Barth is the general-manager for the company.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 3, the Romantic Drama, entitled "MONTE CRISTO."

The distinguishing mark of the representations of the play, "Monte Cristo," founded on Alexandre Dumas' novel, given this week at the Dalston Theatre, is the earnestness, even the actual power, of the acting. Everyone in the cast seems bent on making the best possible impression, and with such zeal at work little wonder that audiences are aroused to enthusiasm as the piece proceeds. The famous character of Edmund Dantes is played by Mr. Austin Milroy, whose vigorous style all through the performance makes him one of the most interesting heroes which the most exacting devotee of romantic drama could demand. He is again and again recalled when, as the Count de Monte Cristo, he disposes of the perpetrators of the treacheries which, in the earlier portion of the romance, have made him the victim of so much injustice and misery. In the actual drama, Mr. Milroy in turn represents three characters: No. 19, the prisoner in the Chateau d'If, the Abbé Busoni, Johannes, a Jew; and the Count, in all the glory of suddenly acquired wealth and in all the quiet determination of his opportunities for vengeance. As Mercedes, a Catalian peasant girl, the first love of Dantes, and, in due course, wife of the Count de Morcerf (first the fisherman, Fernand Mondego), Miss Etheldreda Taaffe acts with a degree of sincerity which quite captivates the audience, and her scenes with Dantes when he reappears as the Count are certainly dramatic, and the height of romantic effect is reached. Mr. T. W. Dunscombe is excellent as the fisherman in the prologue, and the Count de Morcerf in the drama. Mr. C. W. Standing plays M. Danglars, a sailor, in the prologue, and Baron Danglars, a banker, in the drama. Mr. Wilson Coleman is a decided success as M. Noirtier, and Mr. Hugh Montgomery as M. Villefort, the cause of trouble to Dantes, enacts a trying and, on the whole, thankless part in a way which gains for him admiration for his ability as an actor. Mr. W. H. Monte as Caderouse, the drunken tailor, but the faithful friend of Dantes, is the principal exponent of humour in the piece, and Miss Kate Walfred as La Carconte, the tailor's shrew of a wife, adds effect to the main scenes, in which Caderouse figures. Mr. Arnold Winters is dramatically effective as the Abbe Faria, speaking his lines with remarkable clearness under somewhat difficult circumstances during the scene in the cells in the Chateau d'If. The excellent cast also includes Mr. Walter E. Johnson, Mr. George Twitley, Mr. Phil Harper, Mr. Reginald Maurice, Mr. H. Smith, Mr. Richard Hunter, Miss Marie Tennant, and Miss Grace Turner.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Feb. 3, the Drama, entitled "DRIVEN FROM HOME."

This popular drama is attracting large audiences at the Royal this week. Mr. Andrew Melville's company as a particularly strong one, Mr. George Michell giving an effective and finished rendition of Anthony Raybrook. Mr. Francis Everard has a character that suits him like the proverbial glove as the heroic Walter Hatherleigh. He is also general-manager to the company. Mr. William Bradford makes a villainous and crafty Geoffrey Waring, and his accomplice, Dick Saunders, has an able exponent in Mr. Henry Scathard. Mr. Rawden Vivian makes the most of the opportunities offered him as David Wilson; as also do Messrs. Arnold Winters, Tom Dyson, and F. Bates, as Tom Mortlake, Phineas Mullett, and Tim Murphy respectively. A fine character study is that of Mr. David G. Noble as Willie, an outcast; and Jabez Thomas is effectively enacted by Mr. Harry Cornwall. Excellent comedy is infused into the play by Miss Dora Hargreaves as Margaret Bailey and Mr. G. Hammond Asquin as John Anderson. Misses Ina Grant and Edith Leslie, in their respective rôles of Barbara Ashdown and Fanny Jones, are in every way excellent. Too much praise cannot be bestowed upon Miss Eva Norman for her delineation of the dual rôle of Laura Raybrook and Walter Hatherleigh the younger, in each of which she is excellent. The minor characters are most carefully placed. The scenery and effects are in every way in keeping with the production.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Feb. 3, the Panto., entitled "ALADDIN."

Mr. Chas. Constant's spectacular and comic pantomime is drawing crowded houses this week at the military theatre. In the title-rôle Miss Florence Hersee is excellent in every way, acting, singing, and dancing with equal charm her big number, "Land of I dunno where," excellently, whilst her duets and dances with Mr. J. Schofield, jun., "The Cubanola glide," "Yankee tangle," and "Doll dance" are keenly enjoyed. Mr. Schofield most creditably "doubles" Wishee-Washee and Hasrac, and, in addition to the above-mentioned, has a capital song and dance, "When wanted, I'm never there." Mr. Louis Holt is very diverting as the Dame, Widow Twankey, and scores with "Woolloomooloo." As the crafty magician, Abanazar, Mr. Bert Leighton does well; his songs and chorus of girls "Rosie from Cheatham Hill" goes with a swing. Mr. Martin D. Pitts is well placed as the Emperor, Ski Hi, and has two excellent numbers in "Corisande" and "Queen of my Love." As the Grand Vizier, So Long, Mr. Tom Fancourt is "O.K.," his business being clever. His song, "Home and country," a topical duet and patter with Miss Millie Fancourt, go well. Miss Daisy Lake most successfully "doubles" the rôles of Pekoe and the fairy Electra, and her numbers were most pleasingly sung. In the former character she gave "Who were you with last night?" and "We'll go to church on Sunday," and in the latter "Take me back to the garden of love." Miss Edith Adeson is clever as Petti-sing, her well-rendered numbers including "I wish you belonged to me" and "It's a long, long way to Tipperary" most humorously, assisted by Widow Twankey, who for the time being occupies the musical-director's chair. The principal girl, Princess Badroulbadour, is Miss Madge Christopher, who plays the rôle in a charming manner, her songs, "When it's apple-blossom time in Normandy" and "Joshua" are well received. Pretty Miss Lily Ellis is dainty as So Shi, and her song and dance, "I want to be in Dixie," in conjunction with Wyko, and the latter's dancing specialty, are all excellent. The comic policemen, Bo-Bi and Bo-ko are in the hands of Messrs. Harlin and Hanlon, their duet, "By the sea," and their patter and dancing contributing greatly to the amusement of the audience. The chorus is of a high standard, and the scenery, costumes, and effects of the best. The orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Eric Marco, part-composer of many of the items.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Feb. 3, for the First Time in London, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley, entitled "THE COLLIER'S LASS."

Robert Copley	Mr. David Curtis
Tom Fielding	Mr. J. Dobson Clyde
Frank Cecil	Mr. Denbigh J. Douglas
John Willie Hay	Mr. J. Newton Cowling
Hubert Cardel	Mr. Cyril Craven
Joe Miggins	Mr. Bert Johnson
John Bailey	Mr. John Locke
P.C. Wilson	Mr. Easterbrook
Bill Giles	Mr. Fred Barnes
Flossie Shaw	Miss Ivy Clowser
Mary Ellen Nuttal	Miss Lynn Darlington
Martha Copley	Miss Ellen Beverley
Maud Fernley	Miss Mona Gray
Grace Copley	Miss Muriel Dean

Produced at the Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton, in Whit week of last year, "The Collier's Lass" made her initial bid for favour at the hands of metropolitan audiences at the Stratford Theatre Royal on Monday night, when the large audience present gave her a most cordial welcome. Mrs. Kimberley has written a story of strong domestic interest, the continuity of which is only slightly interrupted by the really clever comedy business with which it is freely interspersed, and the piece contains a plethora of thrilling situations and stirring stage effects.

Grace Copley, the Collier's Lass, is betrothed to honest Tom Fielding, but when that plausible scoundrel, Frank Cecil, a decoy of a London den of vice, appears on the scene and offers the girl marriage and a mansion, she determines to forsake her humble surroundings, and to this end she writes a note to the tempter. Fortunately, it comes into the hands of the girl's father, who sees through the villain's game and persuades her to remain at home. Of course, this does not suit Frank Cecil, who forcibly abducts the girl, whose father, in despair, swears to have vengeance.

In Act. II. Grace's parents are nigh penniless over a colliery strike, and, in addition, illness has caused Martha Copley to lose her sight. Then it is that a friend in need appears in Tom Fielding, who has started a search for Grace. Tom does eventually find where the girl has been taken, and by some diplomacy obtains admission to the swell house, even though his working clothes look a bit out of place. But he finds a very changed Grace. She has become literally "a bird in a gilded cage," pretty and attractive in her fine attire, and a considerable source of profit to her captors. The life, however, is so distasteful to the girl that when the somewhat quixotic Tom fervently declares he will still marry her in spite of everything, and also that her parents are bemoaning her loss, she decides to leave the house of ill fame, and after a struggle succeeds in escaping.

When Grace arrives back at Chesterfield Colliery she finds disorder reigning everywhere. There has been a disaster at the pit head, and survivors are being brought from below. Her father, Robert Copley, is still down the mine, and Tom Fielding volunteers for rescue work. Grace has already discovered her blind mother, and it is a great relief to Martha Copley when Tom eventually emerges from the pit with her husband, safe. All is not yet, however, plain sailing for Grace, for Frank Cecil arrives in the vicinity with Hubert Cardel, the owner of the mine (who has met Grace at the London house), and the latter plots with Cecil to get the girl for him. She is again kidnapped, but her rescue is quicker this time, thanks to her friends. Before the end, she once more only narrowly escapes her persistent persecutor, Frank Cecil, but now she falls into the hands of the police (over the London affair), and a happy ending sees Grace reconciled to her parents, once again betrothed to Tom, and the prospects of starting a new life in the Colonies.

Mr. J. Newton Cowling's company is capable and well balanced, and are in no way handicapped by the Lancashire dialect. Of the very appropriate scenery, special mention must be made of the Colliery Pit Head, which is a splendid example of stage illustration. Miss Muriel Dean as Grace Copley acts with much sympathy and tact, which, allied to a very charming personality, enables her to score quite a success in the part. In the unthankful rôle of the thoroughly degraded Frank Cecil Mr. Denbigh J. Douglas acts with ease and fluency, and renders the character extremely unpopular with the more susceptible among the audience. The pertinacious wooer, Tom Fielding, is quietly and convincingly played by Mr. J. Dobson Clyde. Mr. David Curtis supplies a correct and feeling sketch of Robert Copley; and as the mine owner, Hubert Cardel, a mixture of vice and virtue, Mr. Cyril Craven does excellently. As the fashionable and flash Maud Fernley, the proprietress of the London house, Miss Mona Gray handles a delicate part with admirable restraint and ability; and Miss Ellen Beverley is natural and decidedly good as Martha Copley. The "comic relief" is in the hands of Mr. J. Newton Cowling, always amusing and entertaining as John Willie Hay, and Miss Lynn Darlington, a bright and clever Mary Ellen Nuttal, the twain also winning very loud applause for an extremely funny paper-hanging interlude.

EALING HIPPODROME.

On Monday, Feb. 3, the Musical Comedy, entitled "THE CINGALEE."

Mr. Gore Ouseley's company present the ever-popular "Cingalee" at this hall this week. The passage of time does not seem to have robbed it of any of its charm, and the familiar melodies seem just as pleasing and tuneful as ever. For this happy result considerable credit is due to the excellent company, who sustain their respective parts with spirit. Nanoya has a capable exponent in Miss Ruth Trafford, a dainty young lady, whose numbers are well rendered and received. The irrepressible Chambuddy Ram is as amusing as ever in the hands of Mr. Teddy Staples, a most excellent comedian. Rex Curtiss makes an excellent Harry Vereker, and no less successful is Mr. Geo. Mudie, jun., as Bobby Warren. Mr. Colin Coop as Sir Peter Loftus is very successful, his return after dining being admirably done, as the audience were not slow in testifying. Boobhamba is humorously played by Mr. Carl Beechey and Miss Blanche Astley gives a spirited performance as Peggy Sabine. Particular mention must be made of the dances contributed by Miss Queenie Lang, a pretty and clever young exponent of the art. Other members of the company are the Misses Hebe Bliss, Nance Hanton, Alene F. Sercombe, Brownie Cooke, and Kitty Cotter. A numerous chorus do their work well, and an excellent result has been obtained by adding pretty dresses and scenery. Mr. H. C. Pélissier and the Follies are here next week.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, WINDSOR.

On Monday, Feb. 3, the Comedy, entitled "THE BEAR LEADERS."

The enterprise of Mr. J. E. Bull is fully proved by the standard of plays presented each week at this comfortable theatre, and by the approval shown by his numerous patrons. This week Mr. Robert Burnett's clever company is fulfilling a week's engagement with "The Bear Leaders." The company is decidedly good, and the appreciation heard on all sides must be exceedingly gratifying. Mr. Ian O. Will is an indefatigable worker, and as Mr. Stanhope Molyneux supplies an excellent character study. An old favourite with Windsor audiences is Mr. Robert Burnett, who proves himself more than equal to the unexacting requirements of Edward Petworth. Mr. George Goodwin also renews acquaintance with local playgoers, and repeats his former successes with a finished and convincing reading of Horace Becton. Sir Kennedy Loomes is effectively represented by Mr. F. Butt. Mr. Charles Barber acts Mr. Felgate in fine style, and also undertakes the arduous duties of stage management. Mr. Allen Harris gives a good account of the gouty and irritable old Duke of Gallminster. Excellently cast also is Mr. Robertson Hare for the part of the French waiter, Anatole. Mr. P. Smythe plays with effect that of Byles; and Mr. J. Mitchell does all that is required of Rawdon, the valet. The leading part of Mrs. Stanhope Molyneux is in the hands of Miss Ormonde Wynne, who undertakes the difficult character with conspicuous ability. Pretty Miss Janet Gillette's performance of Lady Marjorie Hillborn is a triumph of versatility and skill. Miss Francis White gives an admirable portrayal, and, as Lady Tuddenham, is highly amusing. Miss Nancy Imlach gives a strong-coloured picture of the scheming florist, Mme. Meecale. Miss Russell, as Evande Tuddenham, is distinctly clever, and her assumption of the part causes endless amusement. Miss Ethel Russell contributes a strong delineation of the Dowager-Countess of Grimsdal; whilst Lloyd, a lady's maid, finds a capital representative in Miss Rene Vivian. The staging and dressing are of the highest order, and praise is likewise due to the capital orchestra under Herr Paul Schafer. The general-manageress of the company is Miss D. Fellowes-Robinson, and the acting-manager Mr. A. Harris.

THE BENSON COMPANY AT THE CORONET.

The F. R. Benson Répertoire company is back at the Coronet for a month's season. On Monday, Feb. 3, the interesting revival of "Henry V," with incidental music arranged by Dr. Vaughan Williams, was given. On Tuesday "Antony and Cleopatra," with the beautiful incidental music by Herr Michael Balling, at present directing the Hallé concerts up North, was presented. "A Midsummer Night's Dream," with matinée of "The Merchant of Venice" on Wednesday; "The Taming of the Shrew" on Thursday; "She Stoops to Conquer" on Friday; "Hamlet" in the evening, and "Julius Cæsar" at the matinée to-day (Saturday) provides the first week's programme. Mr. Benson's presentation of "Cleopatra" is the same version which he originally produced in 1898 of this fine, stirring and highly dramatic play. It is a grand and impressive spectacle, full of life, colour and movement; gorgeous, picturesque and intensely interesting. Great credit is due to Mr. F. Randle Ayrton for his stage management, everything working smoothly as clockwork, and the stage crowds being very deftly handled. Miss Dorothy Green is seen quite at her best as Cleopatra. The sinuous, languorous grace, voluptuous abandon, tigerish ferocity and fearsome philandering of the "Serpent of Old Nile" are most graphically depicted. Mr. F. R. Benson as Mark Antony ably indicates the lengths to which unbridled passion will go and the wreck of ambition and military prowess on the altar of a wanton woman's charms. His death scene is very impressive and reverentially carried out. The end also of the majestic queen and king's courtesan, Cleopatra, who prefers death from snake bites to ignominy and dishonour, is very touching, and in this scene Miss Ethel McDowell gets a chance as Charmian, her faithful attendant, and Miss Marion Foreman as Iras, her other loyal maid of honour, also merits attention. Both these young ladies do excellently well in their small parts. Mr. F. Randle Ayrton gives a fine, sterling performance as the blunt, outspoken, honest-thinking Domitius Enobarbus, and contributes quite a gem of classic acting, while his elocution is excellent. Another striking performance is that of Mr. William Calvert in the small part of Menas, friend to Pompey, an embodiment which does credit to his fine theatrical stock. Mr. Baliol Holloway doubles the parts of Æmilius Lepidus and the Clown, creating an excellent impression in both parts. Mr. Murray Carrington is good as Sextus Pompeius, and even better as Thyreus, the hapless friend of Cæsar. Mr. Frank Matthews acts particularly well in the closing scenes as Eros, Antony's devoted friend, and his rendering of the drinking song in Scene 4, "Come, thou monarch of the vine," is rapturously received. The portrayal of Diomedes, a messenger to Cleopatra, by Mr. Frank Cochrane, is most realistic and awe-inspiring; it also gives Miss Green an excellent opportunity for a display of emotional intensity. Mr. James Stanners gives a finished piece of acting as Antony's Lieutenant-General, Canidius. Mr. Ambrose Flower excels as Alexas, and the parts of Mardian and Seleucus, other slaves of Cleopatra, are capably rendered by Mr. O. D. Roberts and Mr. F. Reynolds. Mr. Mark Turner is impressive as the Soothsayer, Mr. Reginald Goode as Octavius Cæsar, Messrs. John Maclean, Darby Foster, Harry Caine, and Miss Constance Pélissier as Octavia, sister to Cæsar, are all well in the picture. Mr. Alfred Spaelson ably wields the conductor's baton, and Mr. W. H. Savery is general manager to the company, assisted by Mr. Hugh Gwyther. Such a measure of success attended this performance that doubtless its repetition on Wednesday, Feb. 26, will be eagerly looked forward to, if even it does not induce the management to revive it earlier.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 3, the Musical Comedy, entitled "AUTUMN MANŒUVRES."

Mr. George Dance's company, in that highly diverting musical comedy, "Autumn Manœuvres," is visiting Kennington Theatre this week, and on Monday night achieved a distinct artistic success. The piece is magnificently dressed and mounted, the finale of the second act in Ambermere Park being one of the prettiest scenes that have been staged in modern musical comedy for a long time. The music of Emerich Kalman is lively and earhaunting, the story is distinctly amusing, withal it constitutes a bitter satire on the Territorial Force, and the dances are picturesque and original. The chorus of Mr. George Dance's company is a particularly strong point, and the rollicking rendering of "We are the Twelfth Hussars," in the opening scene, sets the measure of a wealth of finely concerted numbers. Mr. Willie Ward is certainly entitled to great credit for the good show he makes with the chorus business, and the orchestration, under the direction of Mr. Harold Lonsdale, is excellent. The honours of the evening are, of course, carried off by Mr. Huntley Wright as Captain Withers. He is up to the very top of his form. His humour is irresistibly quaint, and his singing is as acceptable as his fooling, and he scores heavily in the duet with Miss Beatrice Willey, "There is nothing like a hobby," and in the number, "Grandma made me go for a soldier," which was loudly encored on the opening night. Miss Beatrice Willey does very well as Lady Larkins, acting with much vivacity and singing with taste and expression. She fetches the house in her duet with Mr. Wright, "Cheer up, little man." Mr. Gordon James makes a fine soldierly figure as Capt. Falconer, acting with a due sense of restrained strength. His tuneful tenor voice is heard at its best in "Days that are past and gone," and in several duets. Miss Bertie Adams is a bright and lively June Pomeroy. Gifted with a voice of high quality she wins the affections of the audience with her rendering of "Daddy dear"; whilst she also dances with neatness and finish. Mr. Harry Johnstone creates a deal of merriment by his impersonation of Oswald Ord, and sings "I've had a fearful past" with much animation. Mr. Ivan Clarke is an ideal Sergeant-Major Sykes, and his treatment of "The garden land of England" is clever in the extreme. Mr. Oswald Lingard furnishes a splendid sketch of the fiery General Pomeroy; and Mr. O. Ronald is a dignified Col. Annesley. Miss May Rawlinson is an attractive and engaging Alix Luttrell; Miss Florence Fowler does well as Jean Ogilvie; and others who put in good work are Misses P. Berry (Lady Ulleswater), V. Bruce (Mary Medhurst), Nesta Allen (Sybil Houghton), Messrs. John Valentine (Capt. Devenish), and W. V. White (Corpl. Kellett).

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SPORTING NOTES.

BY SANTOI.

THE SPRING HANDICAPS.

Well, all the specialists to whose efforts we owe the Spring Handicap weights may pat themselves and each other on the back. The phenomenally mild winter has, of course, had its effect, but it is due to the handicappers, whose task is ever a thankless one, to say that owners' appreciation of their work has led to the high percentage of acceptances in the leading spring handicaps under Jockey Club Rules. The Grand National is distinct, of course, though it has the lowest percentage of discontents of any of the handicaps.

White Star constitutes a blot upon the Lincolnshire Handicap, yet thus far Mr. Ord is free of reproach, seeing that only eight of the 51 subscribers went out. It is thanks, though, to the bad character the colt earned for himself last season, at the end of which most of his followers had made up their minds that he was a "welsher." The state of the downs at Wantage—they are pretty well waterlogged after the heavy rains—will probably save any further heartburning concerning White Star, for even Morton could not recover the Star's brilliance, supposing it were even possible, without the means for an orthodox preparation. Newmarket must have a big pull on this score in periods of very rainy weather, though as a matter of fact even the gallops at Turf Headquarters have suffered from a surfeit of water this winter, and it will take some days of drying wind to make them sound again. White Star's handicapping at Lincoln, compared with his treatment in the City and Suburban and Jubilee, has evidently struck Morton as forcibly as it did the general critics of the handicaps, for the colt is missing from the two last-named races.

Long Set, the top-weight, stands his ground in everything except the Liverpool Cup, where his defection has caused the weights to go up 12lb. all round. Does Mr. Sol Joel hope to emulate Ob's feat and win the Lincolnshire two years running, and, incidentally, to lower Clorane's record in the matter of weight carrying? It is an ambitious programme; or will he go for the City or Jubilee? The Lincolnshire, I should say, will be his journey, for of course it is an easier race to win, and it is significant that while Maiden Erlegh is still in the City and Suburban and Jubilee, he has not accepted at Lincoln. Then Long Set has been doing progressive work at Alfriston for some weeks past. Maiden Erlegh's exit was not unexpected. All the handicappers seem to have taken an exalted view of his form last year, and there is no doubt that a place in a classic race has most damaging consequences on the future of a horse as far as handicaps are concerned. Anyhow, Mr. Joel evidently considers that Long Set is more than 8lb. in front of last year's St. Leger second. He surely could not have accepted with Long Set from any motives of protection for his other two nominations, Polkerris and St. Nat. Polkerris is a delicate filly, unlikely to show form in early April, and St. Nat is the sort that if he were a biped instead of a quadruped he would have been in a strait jacket long ago!

Beyond Maiden Erlegh the only other notable non-acceptor at Lincoln is Sunspot. As he was strikingly well handicapped with the top-weight, his default in the Lincolnshire and elsewhere may be taken as proof that he has lost his form. All the early fancies are still there—Early Hope, Le Touquet, Dunholm, and the rest. Early Hope, of course, is a stable companion of Junior. The last-named has the better form, but over longer distances. He won five races last season, and wound up by beating such good horses as Eufrosina Mushroom and Wolfe Land in the Limekiln Stakes at Newmarket. If Early Hope is better than Junior at the weights, which possibly the market will reveal in due course, he will be a great factor in the race.

What we want for Lincoln are fit horses. The hurdle racers have a great advantage here. Why not Brandimintine? He is getting old, but his brilliant feats over timber this winter show that he has not deteriorated. He is an aged horse now, but aged horses have triumphed at Lincoln, and this one is literally "chucked" in. It is in his favour, too, that he ran second to Mercutio for the Lincolnshire two years ago. Then he carried 6st. 5lb., and Spanish Prince, who was a moderate third, 8st. 5lb. Now Brandimintine has 6st. 6lb. and Spanish Prince 8st. 13lb.!

Jerry M spoilt the National in the real sense, and made it in another. His exit before the declaration of forfeit led many owners of bad horses to take the extra chance, and, in consequence, only eight out of sixty went out. The damage, though, had been done before. Jerry M's presence in the original handicap restricted its range to 1st. 7lb., which now makes it look grotesque. You can tick off the Liverpool horses on the fingers. Their number does not exceed eight all told, and four of these are weighted at and above 12st—Bloodstone, Rathnally, Caubeen, and Carsey. What sort of spectacle Aintree will present after the first circuit if a tithe of the bad horses go to the post can be imagined. Possibly the fact that the Great Lancashire Steeplechase precedes Liverpool this year will turn out a blessing in disguise. It should certainly eliminate a good few of the bad horses.

Hardly anything that would be missed has gone out of the City and Suburban or Jubilee. Regrets of course for the exit of the King's colt, Pintadeau. Intentions regarding Adam Bede are pretty clearly defined. He leaves the City and Suburban and stays in the Jubilee, although in the Eqsom race he was handicapped at a pound better terms with the top-weight, Long Set. Lomond will evidently go for the City and Suburban. Even though he is badly handicapped with Maiden Erlegh on their St. Leger running he stands his ground.

Early betting on the Spring Handicaps is usually misleading. Possibly something unthought of so far will eventually head the quotations on the Lincolnshire, but no mistake has been made with the Grand National. Axle Pin is a firm favourite. He deserves to be, and he will continue to be so long as his preparation is uninterrupted. That he will emerge triumphant from the ordeals before him we must all hope. As the King will be the guest of Lord Derby at Knowsley during the Grand National week, no more appropriate victory could be wished for than Axle Pin's.

SELECTIONS.

Highbridge's running in the Prince of Wales' Steeplechase at Sandown will be an attractive feature at Sandown to-day, in view of his Grand National engagement, and it being his first public appearance in this country. Without analysing the handicap here I shall take a long shot and declare for JACK, who ran second over three miles at Windsor last week. GAEL RHU, or, in his absence, JASEUR, will about win the Metropolitan Hurdle, LAMENTABLE the Maiden Steeplechase, ST. BREDE the Woking Hurdle, and FREDITH the Cardinal's Hurdle Handicap.

At Birmingham on Monday WELTONIA is worth special attention in the Coventry Steeplechase, CANNOCK LASS should win the Yardley Hurdle. SCRIBO the Sutton Steeplechase, and BUTTERBIRD the Packington Hurdle. On Tuesday BALIDA will about win the Warwickshire Steeplechase, GREENTOI the Harborne Hurdle, and KENIA the Graveley Hurdle.

Mr. H. Gray Dolby, we are sorry to hear, is a patient in the Alexandra Ward of Charing Cross Hospital, and will be glad to hear from old friends.

SPECIALS FROM THE PROVINCES.

"WESTWARD HO!"

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

Drama, Founded on Charles Kingsley's Novel, by Peggy Webling, Produced for the First Time in England at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, on Saturday, Feb. 1.

Oxenham's Daughter ....Mis Marjorie Dane
Pedro ..... Mr. Donald R. Young
Oxenham's Wife .....Miss Marion Lind
John Oxenham .....Mr. Lewis Gilbert
Salvation Yeo .....Mr. Harry Ashford
Amyas Leigh .....Mr. Matheson Lang
Dorcas .....Miss Marjory Carpenter
Bess .....Miss Betty Hutch
Susan .....Miss M. L. Emden
Frank Leigh .....Mr. Basil L. Sydney
Sir Richard Grenville ..Mr. R. Scrope-Quentin
Robin .....Miss Nona Wynne
Arthur St. Ledger ....Mr. Clarence Blakiston
Will Carey .....Mr. Sidney Vautier
Tom Coffin .....Mr. Arthur Seaton
Mr. Saltern .....Mr. Henry Stanhope
Rose Saltern .....Miss Dorothy Ripley
Mistress Leigh .....Miss Harriet Trench
Margaret .....Miss Ethel Harper
Widow Yeo .....Miss Ethel Gray
Jack Brimblecombe ..Mr. F. Percival Stevens
Dick Hale .....Mr. C. Moyston
Robert Drew .....Mr. David Hallam
Tom Tegg .....Mr. A. S. Collard
Will Parracombe .....Mr. Charles Blythe
Hugh Holdfast .....Mr. S. H. Eustace
Vindex Brindlecombe ....Mr. James Plinge
Don Guzman de Soto ..Mr. Halliwell Hobbes
Fra Gerundio .....Mr. Edward O'Neill
First Apprentice .....Mr. Vallacott
Second Apprentice .....Mr. W. E. Gardiner
The Steward .....Mr. A. H. Steerman
Will Fortescue .....Mr. Eric Algar
Ayacanora .....Miss Hutin Britton
The Notary .....Mr. George Hammond
Fra Jerome .....Mr. A. W. Tyrer
Monks of the Inquisition
Messrs. Johnson, Howard, Davis, Bailley, Anderson, and Dale.

Miss Peggy Webling's stage version of Charles Kingsley's "Westward Ho!" is designed to be spectacular and illustrative, to at least the same degree as it aspires to present successfully the usual constituents of plot. One might say, in fact, that the former elements preponderate, for the individual interests are not centralised—there is no intensity of concentration upon the fortunes of any one person, and the compensations are divided about equally in the end, subject to the success of the great adventure, Westward Ho!

The play begins with a prologue, the scene of which is laid in the garden of a house in La Guayra, in the West Indies. Here is told the story of John Oxenham, sea captain, who wedded the Spanish lady and went for a voyage round the world, leaving her to give birth to a child, a daughter. Oxenham returns after years have passed away, only to fall a victim to the waiting and watching myrmidons of the Inquisition. His wife commits suicide rather than survive him, and the daughter—committed to the care of Amyas Leigh, Oxenham's lieutenant—is carried away for safety by a negro slave, and finally lost among the Indians. This furnishes a motive for Amyas Leigh, who is a fine young English adventurer, ready and willing to right the wrongs of anyone, especially if it involve a beating of the Spaniards. On the disappearance of Oxenham's daughter, Salvation Yeo, the boatswain of the ship, sent to find her, has disappeared also, and it is feared that dire misfortune has overtaken both, for a long search by Amyas Leigh and his men ends in disappointment and discontent, and there is nothing for it but to sail the good ship Return back to England, to gratify the men's desire for home. Thus the action changes to a street overlooking Plymouth Harbour, in the summer of 1584. Here we have a typical English scene, with maypole dancing and the rejoicing of citizens over the return of Leigh and his sea-dogs with loot and prisoners. It is in this scene that Rose Saltern is introduced, besieged by a quartet of lovers, of whom Frank Leigh, brother to Amyas, is the favoured one. There are also Sir Richard Grenville, courtly English knight; Mayor Saltern, consequentially ill-natured; Mistress Leigh, delighted to have her big son home safe again; Widow Yeo, grieving for the absence of her son, the boatswain, about whom no news can be given but that he is lost; and many others of interest. More to the purpose of the action, however, are the two prisoners brought on the ship, Don Guzman de Soto and Fra Gerundio, who, pending a ransom, are housed by Sir Richard Grenville. The Spanish monk is depicted in uncompromising terms as a traitorous scoundrel, while about Don Guzman there is a kind of honour such as one might expect of a grandee of Spain. The latter is, however, obsessed by the beauty of Rose Saltern, while his code of honour is demoralised by the power and the specious insinuations of the monk. Thus, when secret preparations are made, he easily falls into the temptation to escape and carry off Rose Saltern to the Indies—a plot arranged by Gerundio. The news of the success of this plot is duly carried to Burrough House, the home of the Leighs, and there is much flourishing of swords and swearing of service, and a general resolve of Rose's lovers to join Amyas Leigh in pursuit of the Spanish ship which had come thus under cover of night for Don Guzman, his captive, and the monk. The action hereupon swings back to the coast of La Guayra, where the sequel of the prologue takes place. The lost daughter of John Oxenham is found in the guise of a full-grown Indian boy, armed and feathered, having been brought up by a tribe of the Incas. She retains enough English to supply the clues to her identity, and Amyas Leigh finds himself, for the first time in his life, attracted unusually to one of the opposite sex. Ayacanora, as she is called, acts as guide to Don Guzman's garden in the town of La Guayra, where Leigh's attempt to rescue Rose Saltern from the embraces of her captor takes place. Leigh is overpowered, corded to a tree, and left to the tender mercies of the Don, while Rose and her lover, Frank, are claimed by Fra Gerundio, to be dealt with by the Holy Office. Amyas, however, by the help of Ayacanora, contrives to change places with Gerundio, in whose garb he appears in the chamber of the Inquisition. This scene is awesome enough, with its shrouded monks, its cold, grim walls, and torture chamber, and Amyas arrives too late (in his character of Fra Gerundio) to prevent the sufferings of his brother Frank upon the rack. As Rose also is about to be put to the torture, however, he throws off his disguise and reveals himself, sword in hand. There is commotion, a rattle of soldiery outside, the door is opened, and in pour the rescuers. They are met by the soldiers of the Inquisition, but Amyas holds the situation while the rescue is effected, by means of a pistol to the head of the white-robed Notary and his chief satellite, Fra Jerome, and the scene ends with the discomfiture of the Inquisitors and the escape of the entire English party to their ship. The third (and last) act is made up of a series of three effective tableaux. The first is a hand-to-hand sea fight between the Return and the Madre Dolorosa, of Don Guzman, a remarkably realistic business, in which the Spaniard is worsted, and presumably sunk; the second shows the crew of the Return on their knees, offering vocal thanksgiving for their triumph; and the third is the deck of the ship in sight of the coast of Devon. Frank and Rose are, of course, already happily reunited, and it only remains for Amyas Leigh and Ayacanora (whom Rose has dressed in English garb) to come to a similar understanding, which is highly pleasing to both.

The popularity of Mr. Matheson Lang with Manchester playgoers was an ingredient of the outstanding success he achieved in the rôle of Amyas Leigh. He looked the very beau ideal of the adventurous young English sea-dog of the period, and he invested the character with a dash of the most ingratiating humour. Miss Hutin Britton as Ayacanora has less opportunities, but she played with charming naïveté, and looked in her English dress a worthy bride for her big, heroic lover. The earlier impersonation of the part as a child was undertaken most attractively by Miss Marjorie Dane, Miss Marion Lind appearing effectively as the wife, and Mr. Lewis Gilbert as the manly and intrepid John Oxenham. As Rose Saltern, "the Rose of Torridge," a very good performance was given by Miss Dorothy Ripley, who passed through her trials with great spirit and attractiveness, though with a sympathy that was just a little overwrought in the torture scene. Frank Leigh, her favoured lover, was lightly but heroically played by Mr. Basil L. Sydney. An excellent impersonation of Don Guzman was added by Mr. Halliwell Hobbes, and another incisive and effective performance was that of Mr. Edward O'Neill as Fra Gerundio. Among so many parts it is difficult to do full justice to everyone, but mention should be made of the smart work of Miss Nona Wynne as Robin and the quaint humour of Mr. F. Percival Stevens as Jack Brimblecombe. Finally, there is an episode in the second act which must be singled out in relation to the impersonation of Salvation Yeo, the boatswain, by Mr. Harry Ashford. This episode is the return of Yeo from the Indies—a sort of "man who was"—after having suffered imprisonment and torture at the hands of the Inquisition. Apart from Mr. Ashford's incidental work in the rôle, this presentment of the weary and broken old mariner stands out as one of the best things in the play.

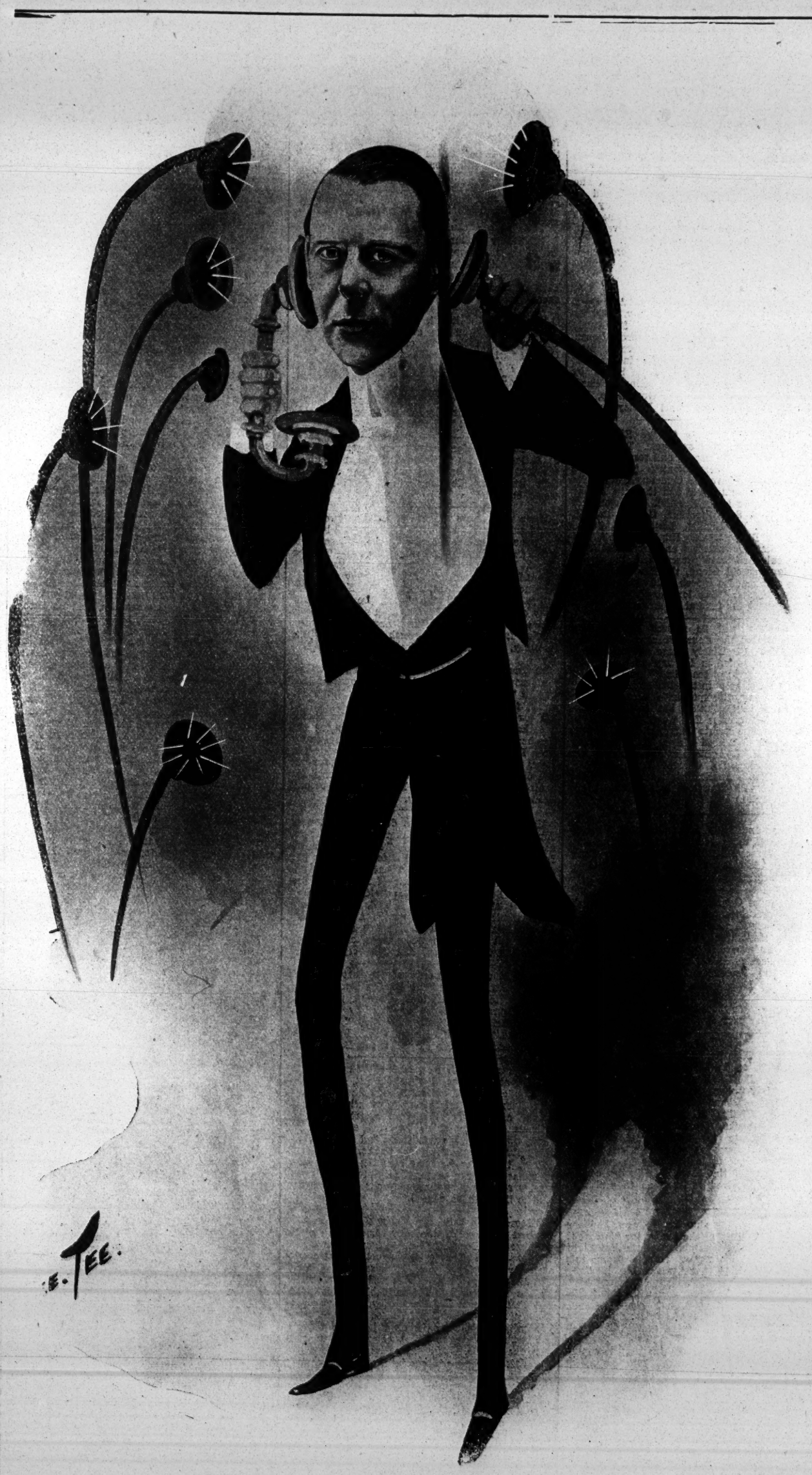
The credit of the production is due to Mr. Matheson Lang. The incidental music is by Mr. John Ansell, to whom also, in conjunction with Mr. Russell Thorndike, is due the credit of a sea song sung by one of Rose's lovers in the third scene of Act I., and the scenery and dresses are in every respect worthy of a production which, already successful in South Africa, is likely to achieve popularity among the many who like picturesque and dramatic fare.

"MONEY TALKS."

Comedy Playlet, Produced at the Empire Palace, Sheffield, on Feb. 3, 1913.

Barton and Ashley have long been great favourites in Sheffield, and their latest production will prove an excellent vehicle for the exploitation of their abilities as singers, dancers, and comedy entertainers. "Money Talks" is a farcical skit of the domestic order. Mrs. Hyde, when the curtain goes up, is discovered in a luxuriously-furnished drawing-room, and the fair lady's appearance in her elaborate Parisian "confection" is quite on a par with the beauty of her surroundings. Mrs. Hyde supposes herself to be a widow, as her husband, the roving Bill Hyde, has been missing for three years, and the lady, thinking he has joined the ranks of the "dear departed," is on the eve of contracting a marriage with a rich admirer. The situation being explained, Mr. William, a jocular tramp-like individual, enters, and with funny patter and very laughable business the pair keep the house in roars with their domestic arguments and lively repartee, worked in the genuine Barton and Ashley fashion. Says Mrs. Hyde: "I'm going to be married." "You can't," answers Bill, "while I'm alive." Then the dutiful wife replies, with delicious humour, "Then you must commit suicide!" However, such a dire contingency is not on the cards, and when William confesses that he has discovered a "money mine" in South Africa all the domestic difficulties are smoothed away, and a mechanical demonstration of the axiom "money talks" brings the lady to the arms of her "luvin 'usband."

This slight sketch of the plot of Barton and Ashley's latest farcical absurdity will enable all conversant with their comedy talents and original methods to readily imagine the hearty laughter that results from their smart dialogue and novel business. A lively apropos song and chorus, "I'm a millionaire," was very successful, and the little piece comes to a merry conclusion with an exhilarating song and dance. The Empire audience received the farce with hearty applause.



MR. WENTWORTH CROKE.

Though still a young man, Mr. Wentworth Croke's name has been prominent in theatre annals for some years. His enterprise this holiday season has been shown in the production of pantomimes at the Elephant and Castle, at his own theatre, the Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, and his "Cinderalla" pantomime at the Syndicate Halls. Mr. Croke's companies on the road have been largely associated with the plays of Hall Caine.

PANTO. FAREWELL AT BRIGHTON.

A crowded and enthusiastic audience attended the final performance of the pantomime, "Jack and the Beanstalk," at the Brighton Theatre Royal on Saturday evening. The leading members of the company were the recipients of magnificent bouquets and other gifts, Miss Madeline Rossiter (Princess Zoe) and Miss Nancy Langtyre (Jack) being especially favoured in this respect. On the termination of the performance the following presentations were made by Miss Nancy Langtyre on behalf of the company, a set of silver (inkstand and candlesticks) with a letter-writing case and an "Onoto" pen to Mr. P. Allerton Turner (producer of the pantomime); a leather writing case to Mr. A. Mann (business-manager), a travelling bag to Mr. George Burnley (musical-director), and a silver inkstand to Mr. Lawson Lambert (manager of the Theatre Royal).

In a neat speech Mr. Lambert thanked the company (including the chorus), the theatre staff, and orchestra, and Mr. George Burnley, for their excellent work, and also the public for the great support they had given to the pantomime. It was announced that Miss Langtyre, as the result of voting, had been awarded the huge box of chocolates provided for the chief favourite among the actresses engaged in Brighton during the pantomime season.

"THE RIGHT TO DIE."

Play, in One Act, by Kathleen Lion, Produced at the Repertory Theatre, Liverpool, Wednesday, Feb. 5.

Dora Wimpole ..... Miss Eileen Thorndike
Mary Bailey ..... Miss Doris Lloyd
Miss Summers ..... Miss Nora Charrington
Dolly Compton ..... Miss Estelle Winwood
Mrs. Stelon Stepon .... Miss Nina Henderson
Dr. A. Keith Norton ..... Miss Mona Smith
Rachael Mendoza..Miss Kathleen Fitzsimmons
Miss Agnes Keppel ..... Miss Ethel James

This is an admirable curtain-raiser, but unfortunately its lifetime will be limited to that of the "Suffragette" cause, for the reason that it deals wholly and absolutely with that movement. There is an immense amount of humour in the half-hour's story, and it is abundantly clear that the work has come from the pen of a writer who, if not closely acquainted with what actually transpires in the councils of the Suffragette leaders, at least has a pretty imagination of what might naturally be expected to occur therein. It is undoubtedly a smart piece of fooling, which cannot fail to prove entertaining, as was shown on Wednesday evening, when a large and critical audience gave it a flattering reception. The suddenly tragic ending came as a surprise.

On the rise of the curtain we have a glimpse at what purports to be the "small committee-room of the United Suffragist Society." A number of chairs are arranged around a large table in the centre, while banners bearing the recognised colours of the enthusiasts are propped against the walls, on which are to be seen placards declaring "War!" and "Resign, Lloyd George!" There is to be a meeting of the leaders to take into consideration the critical condition of affairs. It is agreed that the outrages on property and assaults on prominent persons are rapidly alienating public sympathy from the "cause," and, as it is evident that success is absolutely unattainable unless such sympathy is on the side of the vote-seeking females, the question arises as to how they can bring the public to their way of thinking. The dialogue is particularly smart. One female after another (all on the young side, by the way, which adds ludicrousness to the proceedings), bounce into the room, chattering all the time about what they have done, and what they mean to do, one of them, who has evidently had a soaking in the rain, throwing down a bundle of Suffragist literature and declaring in disgust that she had "only sold four." The chair is taken by the female Dr. Norton (capitally played by Miss Smith), and then various plans are suggested towards securing the return of public sympathy. The elderly Miss Keppel (Miss Ethel James handled the part in brilliant style) appears to be the fire-eater, and suggests all sorts of extreme measures, even to kidnapping Lloyd George, but when all proposals are rejected, Miss Summers, who has been sitting apart in a chair near the fire, offers to sacrifice her life, which extreme measure she believes will awaken the public conscience. She produces a medical certificate to show that a heart trouble from which she suffers will shortly have a fatal ending, and she suggests that if imprisoned she might attempt the "hunger strike," which would speedily kill her. Miss Keppel approves the "noble sacrifice," and on the matter being put to the vote the decision is equal. Miss Keppel, not to be outdone, demands that Miss Summers should be allowed to vote, and, on the latter being approached, it is found that she has expired in her chair. Then, the curtain.

Miss Nora Charrington deserved much praise for her sympathetic portrayal of the distressed Miss Summers, and the rest of the cast, although their work was very much alike, sustained the interest in able manner.

"CINDERELLA" AT CHISWICK.

On Thursday, Jan. 30, Mme. Queenie Bird produced a very bright version of this well-known story, written and composed by Lindsay Mackay, M.A.L.L.B. Most of the cast were drawn from pupils of Mme. Bird at St. Oswald's School. Specially good were Miss Phyllis Atcherley as the Fairy Godmother, Miss Celia Queenie Bird as Goddess of Dreamland; Mr. Raylegh Hollinbury did well as the Baron, Master Ronald Hausmore made an excellent Herald, and the Sisters found worthy exponents in Miss Phyllis Yardley and Ivy Shearman. Some good popular airs were introduced in the palace scene, including an excellent duet, representing "Japan"—amongst the other nationalities. A word of praise must be given to a most artistic scene "Cupid's Garden." The dances were arranged and the dresses designed by Mme. Bird. In consequence of the many encores the performance did not conclude until twelve o'clock.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier's great success, "Find the Woman," from the Garrick Theatre, will be the attraction at the Grand Theatre, Croydon, next week. This will be the company's first visit to the suburbs. The cast is headed by Miss Agnes Verity, who will appear as Annie Jeffries, and Mr. Frederick Victor, as the lawyer, Richard Dexter.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP

Sir Herbert Tree returned to London on Monday from Moscow. He was much interested in the Art Theatre, where he saw six pieces performed, including "Hamlet." He is in fine health, and has found a play to follow "Drake."

Sir Herbert will preside at the meeting of the Actors' Association, which will be held at His Majesty's Theatre on Tuesday at noon, when the attention of the Association will be called to the National Theatre question, and a demand made that the Association shall be represented on the Executive Council. It seems that our inquiries into the matter of the Shakespeare Memorial Fund have not been entirely in vain.

Lady Tree gave several recitations on Tuesday at the New Year's party given by Victoria Lady Templemore, the president of the Church Army Alexandra Trust for Girls and Women in Business and Service, to 300 of its members. Miss Vera Beringer also recited.

Sir George Alexander has kindly promised to be present at the general meeting of those interested in the Croydon Repertory Theatre, which will shortly be held at the Grand Theatre, Croydon. Sir George will make a speech, which is sure to be interesting.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier, the hon. secretary of the King George Pensions for Actors and Actresses Fund, has received a letter from the President, Sir Douglas Dawson, G.C.V.O., C.M.G., intimating that his Majesty has been graciously pleased to approve that in each year a special performance in aid of the fund shall be given at different West End theatres. The performance this year will take place at the St. James's Theatre, and the play selected by his Majesty is "London Assurance." Sir Herbert Tree, the chairman of the committee, Sir George Alexander, and Mr. Arthur Bourchier, the hon. secretary, will make the necessary arrangements, and submit the cast of the play for the King's approval.

The King George Pension Fund was formed as a result of the Coronation gala performance held at His Majesty's Theatre on July 27, 1911, from which a net sum of £4,650 was realised. Sir Herbert Tree, with the support of the committee, suggested that this sum should "be set aside to form the nucleus of a fund to be called the King George Pension Fund for Actors and Actresses," and the suggestion was graciously approved by his Majesty. The object of the fund is "to grant a pension for life to certain actors and actresses whose work, service, and needs entitle them to be nominated."

The O.P. Club's complimentary dinner to Mr. Forbes-Robertson at the Hotel Cecil on Sunday, March 16, should be a big success. Mr. Robertson deserves all the honour that can be given him, especially as it is reported that he recently declined to be knighted.

Miss Eva Moore and H. V. Esmond will commence at the Criterion Theatre on Wednesday a season with a new farcical comedy in three acts by Mr. Esmond, entitled "Eliza Comes to Stay." Miss Eva Moore, who will be best remembered for her delightful performance as Käthie in "Old Heidelberg," will appear as Eliza; Mr. H. V. Esmond, who has been seen only too seldom in London in the last few years, will appear in his play. In the cast are Mr. Eric Lewis, Mr. Fred Grove, Miss Carlotta Addison, Miss Constance Groves, Miss Diana Cootes, and Mr. Charles Esdale.

Sir Squire Bancroft will bring his readings in aid of hospitals to a close shortly with a farewell reading of Dickens' "Christmas Carol," on behalf of the Middlesex Hospital, on the board of which Sir Squire has served for twenty-five years. The recital will be given on Tuesday afternoon, March 11, at the St. James's Theatre, which Sir George Alexander has kindly lent for the purpose. Sir Squire has earned £20,000 for the hospitals by his good work.

Mr. Wentworth Croke will devote the entire proceeds of to-night's house of his pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe," at the Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, to the funds of the National Reserve. The performance on this occasion will be under the immediate patronage of Sir William Bull, M.P., and Mr. S. D. Leah, the Mayor of Hammersmith.

The annual general meeting of the subscribers of the Actors' Benevolent Fund will be held on the stage of His Majesty's Theatre on Friday, at 11.30 for 12 noon, to receive the report of the committee and the accounts for the year 1912, with Sir Herbert Tree in the chair. The attendance of subscribers is requested, and all those interested in the work of the Fund are invited to be present.

Mr. Granville Barker has decided not to revive "Macbeth" at the Savoy Theatre, as the success of "Twelfth Night" there will carry the management through their present season. In the autumn, however, Mr. Barker proposes to produce "A Midsummer Night's Dream," and in the new style.

The cast of "A Little Fowl Play," by Mr. Harold Owen, which will precede Mr. Charles Hawtrey's amusing production, "General John Regan," at the Apollo Theatre on Monday, includes Miss Ivy Williams, Miss Gertrude Thornton, Mr. George F. Tully, and Mr. Leslie Rea.

Mr. Frederick Harrison's cast of "The Pretenders," at the Haymarket, on Feb. 13, includes Mr. Basil Gill, Miss Yvonne Q. Orchardson, Mr. Montagu Love, Mr. Laurence Irving, Miss Helen Haye, Miss Tita Brand, Miss Netta Westcott, Mr. William Haviland, Mr. Henry Hargreaves, Mr. Henry Crocker, Mr. Frank Ridley, Mr. Robin Shiells, Mr. Ewan Brooke, Mr. E. A. Warburton, Mr. Allan Jeayes, Mr. Guy Rathbone, Miss Madge Macintosh, and Mr. E. Ion Swinley.

There was an unrehearsed comedy during the performance of the "Chocolate Soldier" at Boudry, near Neuchatel, on Saturday. When the curtain went up for the fourth act the actors were astonished to find that the audience had departed. The play up to this point had been received with so much enthusiasm that the company were puzzled, until it was discovered that owing to a printer's blunder on the programme, it had been announced that the play was a comedy in "three acts." The audience had accepted the announcement as correct.

Mr. F. R. Benson's company opened their four weeks' season at the Coronet on Monday with "Henry the Fifth," with incidental music arranged by Dr. Vaughan Williams. On Tuesday "Antony and Cleopatra" was played, the beautiful music of Herr Michael Balling again being heard, and the leading parts being played by Mr. Benson and Miss Dorothy Green. For the remainder of the week "A Midsummer Night's Dream," with Mendelssohn's music, "The Taming of the Shrew," "Hamlet," "The Merchant of Venice," "Julius Cæsar," and Goldsmith's "She Stoops to Conquer" were announced.

Sir George Alexander has decided to withdraw "Turandot" from the St. James's on Friday, and to put on pro tem. "The Importance of Being Earnest," with Mr. A. E. Matthews, Miss Rosalie Toller, Miss Helen Rous, Miss Dorothy Fane, Mr. E. Vivian Reynolds, and Mr. Gerald Ames in the cast, pending the production of a new play by Mr. A. E. W. Mason, the principal parts in which will be played by Sir George and Miss Irene Vanbrugh.

Mr. Lyn Harding, who has been invited to create a big part in a new play marked for production in London about Easter, will not be able to return to this country before the end of May, when the present run of "Years of Discretion" will terminate in New York. This comedy is an enormous success at the Belasco Theatre, and is breaking all records there. The cast, which is described as an "all star" one, is headed by Mr. Lyn Harding and Miss Effie Shannon.

Mr. Martin Harvey, who has always been a great favourite among Scottish playgoers, has this week been drawing the same wonderful houses at Dundee as he had last week at Aberdeen. Nowhere in the United Kingdom has the fine production of "Œdipus Rex" been more enthusiastically received than in these two Northern cities. The propinquity of St. Andrew's University, of course, means that there is an important academic element in the society of the neighbourhood, which was naturally well represented at the performances of the Greek tragedy. But the general public showed the keenest interest. The first two nights of the week were devoted to "The World and His Wife." This fine play was also new to Dundee audiences, who welcomed the opportunity of seeing Mr. Martin Harvey and Miss de Silva in a modern work. Mr. Harvey will, in his summer season in town, produce a new modern play, "The Faun," by Mr. Edward Knoblauch.

Mr. Weedon Grossmith's cast for "Ask Questbury," at the Globe Theatre on Friday, includes, besides himself, Mr. Edwin H. Wynne, Mr. Rudge Harding, Mr. Henry Ford, Mr. Geoffrey Denys, Miss Daisy Thimm, Miss Maud Cressall, Miss Nora Laming, Miss Shelley Calton. In the cast of the first piece, "A Storm in a Tea Shop," by Stafford Hilliard, are Miss Evangeline Hilliard, Miss Gabrielle de Wilden, Mr. Guy Lane, Mr. Geoffrey Denys, and Miss Mabel Harley.

The funeral of the late George Rignold at Sydney was an imposing spectacle. There were immense crowds in the streets, and respect for the deceased was widely demonstrated. The remains were interred in Waverley Cemetery, where lie both the dead actor's wives and the late Arthur Dacre and his wife (Amy Roselle). The mourners were Messrs. G. S. Titheradge, George Darrell, Joe Polario, J. W. Hazlitt, Lewis Scott, Julius Knight, John Bennett, and Hugh J. Ward, and very many best known actors and prominent legal and political men were present. At the grave George Rignold's old friend, the Rev. North Ash, officiated, and made a speech, and the choristers of the theatre sang "The long day closes." The people flocked to the funeral in thousands.

"A Gauntlet" will be revived by the Play Actors' Society at the Court Theatre on Monday afternoon, Feb. 17. Thirty years ago Björnson's drama was suppressed in Norway on the ground that its plain speaking tended to "set our young girls against the holy institution of matrimony." Since then many attempts have been made to produce it in that country, but to no purpose. The present producer is Mr. W. G. Fay, and the cast includes Miss Ernita Lascelles, Miss Phyllis Manners, Miss Winifred Mayo, Miss Elizabeth Rosslyn, Mr. H. K. Ayliff, Mr. James Berry, Mr. A. M. Heathcote, Mr. Charles Vane, and Mr. Jackson Wilcox. An English translation of the play by Geo. P. Hawtrey was given at the Royalty in 1894.

Sir George and Lady Alexander held a reception of workers interested in the forthcoming election at St James's Theatre on Wednesday afternoon. After the reception a meeting was held, at which Sir George spoke.

"The Younger Generation," Mr. Stanley Houghton's much-discussed comedy, reaches its 100th performance on Monday, when it will be removed from the Haymarket Theatre to the Duke of York's. This move is necessitated by the forthcoming production at the Haymarket of Ibsen's drama, "The Pretenders." Mr. Barrie's "The Twelve Pound Look" will be played after "The Younger Generation," when Miss Kate Moffat (Bunty) makes her reappearance before a London audience in the part of Kate.

The February meeting of the directors of the Royal General Theatrical Fund was held at Savoy House, Strand, on Tuesday last, under the presidency of Mr. Charles K. Cooper. Messrs. Lionel Carson, Arthur Curtis, Hubert Harben, Herbert Lyndon, M. R. Morand, Lionel Rignold, Charles Rock, Hubert Willis, H. Saxe Wyndham, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary) were in attendance. A candidate for membership was duly elected. It was agreed that certain suggestions as to some alterations in the rules be submitted to the members of the Association in due course. The secretary received instructions to deal with sundry matters.

Mr. Martin Adeson, who, by the way, had one of the biggest houses of the season for his benefit at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, on the last night but one of the pantomime, tells a funny tale about himself. Last week when his landlady was out someone went up to her and said, "I see you have Tiny staying with you." She replied, "Poor Tiny is dead." The man said, "Well! I saw him in Grafton-street just now, looking as big and healthy as ever." The landlady still insisted that Tiny was dead. Explanations followed, and it turned out that the landlady was referring to her little pet dog, which recently deceased, and the man was talking of Tiny, the Baroness, the part played by Mr. Adeson in the pantomime at the Gaiety.

The fifth annual pantomime supper and ball in connection with the Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, was held after the conclusion of the evening performance at the Clarendon Restaurant, Hammersmith Broadway, on Monday. Mr. Wentworth Croke occupied the chair, and among the 110 people present were the entire company of the "Robinson Crusoe" pantomime now playing at the Lyric, also the staff of the house, all the principals, and a great many of the chorus from Mr. Croke's Elephant and Castle pantomime. "Jack and the Beanstalk," and several members of Mr. Wentworth Croke's "Cinderella" pantomime company, which has just finished playing the Syndicate halls. The first toast on the list—that of "The King"— was suitably proposed by the chairman, and loyally honoured. The second toast, "Success to the 'Lyric,'" was proposed by Mr. C. Ernest Smith, and replied to by Mr. Wentworth Croke. The toast of "The Lyric Pantomime Artistes" was proposed by Mr. Barney Hyams, and replied to by Miss Ethel Hall. It was left to Mr. Herbert Tate to propose the toast of "The Chairman," to which Mr. Wentworth Croke responded. After supper the party adjourned to the ballroom, where dancing was kept up until the small hours.

Mr. W. W. Kelly, we regret to learn, is unfortunately hors de combat, in consequence of an unpleasant accident to his ankle. He has engaged for Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool, next week "A Butterfly on the Wheel," which will be presented by Mr. Arthur Hardy's company. Arrangements for the monster benefit in aid of the Theatrical Gala Fund at Kelly's Theatre, on Tuesday, Feb. 18, are now practically complete, and a most attractive entertainment is promised.

"A Waltz Dream" is to be the attraction next week at the New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, where the popular musical comedy will be presented by an able company organised by Mr. George Dance.

Mr Walter Howard's romantic drama, "The Midnight Wedding," opens on Monday at the Hippodrome, Bolton, for an extended tour. Mr. Alfred Paumier, who makes his first appearance since his recent return from South Africa, and Miss Annie Saker will appear in their original parts, and will be supported by a strong company. "The Midnight Wedding" is one of Mr. Howard's most popular dramas, and enjoyed, it will be remembered, a remarkable success at the London Lyceum

Mr. Wentworth Croke entertained the children from the Cripples' Mission of the Acton Branch of the Ragged School Union and Shaftesbury Society on Wednesday afternoon last at the Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, at his pantomime of "Robinson Crusoe." The visitors paid the principal boy, Miss Ethel Hall, the compliment of handing over the footlights to her a beautiful basket of roses

Miss Cicely Richards's part in "Drake" at His Majesty's is, in consequence of her illness, being played by Miss Stella St. Audrie, Miss St. Audrie's part being sustained by Miss Marion Turner. Both of the ladies have given excellent performances.

At the Theatre Royal, Bury, on Monday Miss Hilda Bellamy, in the absence of Miss Adela Crispin, played the rôle of Prudence in "The Quaker Girl" (Mr. Geo. Dance's company). This was only Miss Bellamy's second opportunity in the part, and she again scored a distinct success.

Saturday's house with "Hindle Wakes" at the Theatre Royal, Barnsley, was 25 per cent. over the "previous best" of that theatre.

Mr. James Gelderd, who made a great success as Horace Travers in "The Fire Screen" during the past autumn, has been engaged for the Sheffield Repertory Theatre, which starts its first season on Monday.

There was some doubt how "Everywoman" would suit the suburbs and the provinces, but the performances of the play by Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton's company at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, this week has been immensely successful. Next week the company goes to Hammersmith, and afterwards to Kennington, before beginning its tour in the provinces. The story of the play itself seems even more telling in a smaller theatre than Drury Lane, and the production from that house, which is carried by the company, is generally admired and applauded.

An anecdote which comes to us from Kennington accounts for much of the affection entertained by the "Aladdin" company for Miss Norah Delaney, the principal boy in that pantomime. In the early weeks of the run one of the chorus girls had the misfortune to lose a purse containing her week's salary, as she was going home. Miss Delaney got to hear of this a day or two later, and promptly reimbursed the girl for the loss out of her own pocket. It was not until the pantomime ended that the little incident became known outside the company.

Mr. W. R. Walkes, whose death in London on Sunday from influenza we regret to have to announce, was the author of "Mary Pennington Spinster," a comedy in four acts, which was produced at the St. James's Theatre in 1896, and three one-act plays, "A Pair of Lunatics," produced at Drury Lane in 1889; "Gentleman Jim," produced at the Princes, Bristol, in 1894; and "Miss Cinderella," produced at the Avenue by Sir George Alexander in 1890. He was a member of the Garrick and Green Room Clubs, and a bright and pleasant companion, and was very popular.

So great was the success of the last children's play, "Tommy Green," at Buxton Opera House, that elaborate preparations are now under way for the presentation of another by the same author, Mr. Sidney Walton, entitled "Amos, the Ambitious," music by Messrs. G. F. Burgiss and Percy Goddard, to be staged about Eastertide.

Mr. Frank Marshall writes:—"Complaints are so rife at the present time that it can hardly be wondered at if attention be called to a certain class of entertainment-goers who seem to regard all forms of theatrical entertainment, as well as opera, as being provided especially for their own special delectation, and not for the intellectual enjoyment of the public. I allude, of course, to those who come strolling at any hour or moment of the performance into the theatre, utterly regardless of the annoyance and confusion that is likely to be caused.

"Years ago, both Sir Henry Irving and Sir Herbert Tree were, one may remember, greatly perplexed and concerned as to how to deal with the late-comer. That such conduct militates very seriously with the players there can be no doubt. But the discomfort that is caused to the seaters by the late-comers is indescribable. It is manifest that to them the opera, play, or what not is the second consideration. To see and be seen is primarily, if not wholly, their object, and the discomfort they cause to others never seems to enter their heads for a moment. Could not, however, this nuisance be put down by prohibiting visitors to go to their seats while the curtain is up?"

Mr. Hugo Görlitz has arranged with Mr. Landon Ronald and the New Symphony Orchestra to give an orchestral concert at the New Concert Hall of the Royal Academy of Music to-day.

After the recent last performance of the season of the pantomime of "Aladdin" at the Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough, the stage was filled with a crowd of stage hands, attendants, and pantomime artistes, and Mr. J. Charles Imeson, the proprietor, said that they had assembled for the purpose of making a presentation to Mr. W. K. Chatto, the manager of the Opera House, who was about to take over the management of the Empire Theatre of Varieties, and who had been at the Opera House from the time it was opened. Mr. Imeson then handed to Mr. Chatto a gold watch as a souvenir from himself, and a gold chain and medallion from the staff, the band, and a few friends. Mr. Chatto, in responding, said that he really did not know how to thank them for such a handsome gift, and he would remember their many kindnesses whenever he looked at the watch. The Opera House had had some "ups and downs" since it was opened, but he hoped it would now go steadily forward to success. Mr. Cecil Imeson, the new manager, expressed his regret at the departure of Mr. Chatto.

"THE SON AND HEIR."

Original Play, in Four Acts, by Gladys Unger, Produced at the Strand Theatre, on Saturday, Feb. 1.

Sir Everard Titsy Chilworth ..... Mr. Edmund Maurice
Everard Chilworth ..... Mr. Max Leeds
Pascoe Tandridge ..... Mr. Norman Trevor
Felix Fourié ..... Mr. Raymond Lauzerte
John Brock ..... Mr. J. Parish Robertson
Cecil Chilworth ..... Mr. Bobbie Andrews
Tidder ..... Mr. Charles Daly
William ..... Mr. Lambert Plummer
Lady Chilworth ..... Miss Cynthia Brooke
Amy Chilworth ..... Miss Ethel Dane
Miss Chilworth ..... Miss Jean Cadell
Dorman ..... Miss Mary Griffiths
Beatrice Wishaw ..... Miss Ethel Irving

"The Son and Heir," by Miss Gladys Unger, which was produced at the Strand Theatre, under the direction of Mr. Louis Meyer, last Saturday, deals with the sacrifice of everything and everybody in a typical British family to the elder son, the heir, "a monstrous family idol to whom all bow down and worship."

To the house of Chilworth comes on a visit Pascoe Tandridge, a successful novelist, accompanied by his friend, Felix Fourié, who, desirous of emulating the author of "John Bull et son Ile," is studying English life from the inside. Five years earlier there had been some love passages between Beatrice, the elder daughter of the house, and young Tandridge, who was then an inconspicuous journalist. To prevent the slur on the family name that a love match between two healthy but impecunious young people would have caused, Sir Everard married his daughter to an elderly waster, notoriously tied to the apron-strings of another woman, who hoped that the marriage of her lover to a young, unsuspecting girl would cover the tracks of their unauthorised passion. When Beatrice and Pascoe meet again at her old home, "Ledgers," she, poor soul, has few illusions left after five years of married life, for during that time she has discovered "things about her husband that make it impossible for her to live under the same roof with him." Pascoe, to whom she has always remained the "one woman," meets her at an opportune moment. In the inevitable bedroom scene—fortunately on this occasion the bed is not visible—he puts to her at midnight the momentous question, "Will you bolt with me?" "Yes," replies Beatrice. "When?" "Whenever you like." They arrange that the "bolt" shall take place the next morning; Beatrice is to drive Pascoe to the station in her car.

But they have reckoned without the family Moloch, who intervenes to cheat Beatrice of her happiness. She has a little sister, Amy—a very insipid little sister, wth blue eyes and curly golden hair—who loves and is loved, in secret, by honest John Brock, the penniless and much-despised "crammer," by whose aid the son and heir is to enter university life. The love affair of John and Amy is revealed to Sir Everard by his eldest son at a convenient moment, with the result that John is reduced to speechless indignation and Amy to sleeplessness. To beguile the wakeful hours she seeks Beatrice, just as Pascoe has left the latter, and is discovered in her sister's room by the father, who is still "on the rampage" at after one o'clock in the morning. Amy's feeble little attempts at defiance having failed, Beatrice dismisses her, and then proceeds to give her father a very effective "dust-up." All the resentment that has gnawed at her heart for five long years is allowed full play; she denounces his hideous holocaust of family to the "name," his abominable selfishness, his cruel tyranny. She works herself up into such a passion of fury that to taunt him she flings at him the news of her own proposed elopement, taking any foolish way to pierce his callousness. The fear of scandal touches Sir Everard to the quick; father and daughter lose control of themselves; she taunts, derides, and goads him to desperation, and he bellows and roars with fury. "By God, I'll kill you." . . . He seizes her by the throat. . . . Shrieks from the woman . . . . hasty footsteps outside, a quick knocking at the door. It is the Frenchman, who has been awakened by the cries. A sudden cessation of emotion—at all costs must the decencies of demeanour be observed before the foreigner—it is nothing; merely a little friendly conversation between father and daughter. Is it that the English food has not agreed with M. Fourié? Or perhaps he has been visited by the "Grey Ghost"? After a little further badinage, Sir Everard pecks his daughter on the forehead, and, accompanied by the Frenchman, profuse in apologies, he leaves her at last alone.

The next morning the household gathers at the breakfast-table as if nothing had happened. Even honest John's appetite has not suffered, and Sir Everard astounds them all by his announcement of the engagement of Amy and the tutor. The only enlightened person is Beatrice. She realises the subtlety of her father's move; metaphorically he has set a sprat to catch a whale. He has acted thus with regard to Amy in order that Beatrice shall see to it that she keeps her end up. And the elder daughter, bone of his bone, flesh of his flesh, can see no other alternative. She and her lover must be sacrificed, because "the game" must be played. She returns, an unloved wife, to a faithless husband; and Pascoe is left to console himself with the surprising philosophy of his French friend, not the helpful creed that we should have expected from his cynical philosophy, but the weaker and more conventional doctrine of submission.

Miss Unger's play has the advantage of admirable acting. Miss Ethel Irving, one of our greatest temperamental actresses, is superb in her big scene in the third act, where, defying her father, Beatrice glories in anticipation at "kicking over the traces." Her love for and trust in Pascoe Tandridge are exquisitely and touchingly portrayed; her sweet, tender gaiety of soul, her wonderful, foolish loyalty to the "false gods" she has been taught to worship, combine to render Miss Irving's performance of the part of the ill-fated Beatrice Wishaw one to remember among the finest. The Sir Everard of Mr. Edmund Maurice is a masterpiece of character study, a fine picture of an arrogant, obstinate country squire. Two excellent contrasts are provided by Mr. Norman Trevor as Pascoe Tandridge, the "real good sort" type, reserved, strong, and impressive, and the delightfully cynical and emotional Felix Fourié of Mr. Raymond Lauzerte, which is full of humour and charm. The unsatisfactory part of Lady Chilworth is artistically played by Miss Cynthia Brooke, beautiful as ever, and only a little more mature than in the days when she took part in the production of "The Liars." Mr. Max Leeds acts consistently and makes the most of his few opportunities as the insufferable son and heir, the victim of parental indulgence; Miss Jean Cadell contributes a pathetic little sketch of an officious old maid; Miss Mary Griffiths is the most comfortable of family servants; Mr. J. Parish Robertson and Miss Ethel Dane do their best to be interesting in their parts, and give excellent performances of them according to the lines laid down by the author; Mr. Bobbie Andrews plays the younger son intelligently; and Mr. Lambert Plummer is a "perfect old dear" of a privileged butler.

The play is beautifully mounted by Messrs. W. Johnston and W. Helmsley. On the first night it was enthusiastically received, Miss Unger appearing in response to loud calls.

"TRUST THE PEOPLE."

A Play, in Three Acts, by Stanley Houghton, Produced at the Garrick Theatre on Thursday, Feb. 6.

John Greenwood ..... Mr. Arthur Bourchier
John Greenwood, senr. ..... Mr. John McNally
Mrs. Greenwood ..... Miss Barbara Gott
Stephen Jebb ..... Mr. P. Perceval Clark
Nathan Brierley ..... Mr. Frank J. Arlton
Joseph Walmesley ..... Mr. W. S. Hartford
The Mayor ..... Mr. W. Hubert
The Mayoress ..... ?..... Miss Edith King
Mrs. Riley ..... Miss Margaret Boyd
One of the Lads ..... Mr. Clifford Heatherley
A Reporter ..... Mr. Hubert Woodward
The Earl of Eccles ..... Mr. Thomas Weguelin
The Marquis of Cheadle Mr. Kenyon Musgrave
Lord Richard Northenden..Mr. Richard Neville
Sir James Harvey-Macpherson Mr. Herbert Bunston
Morris Johns ..... Mr. Thomas Sidney
Thompson ..... Mr. Archibald McClean
A Waiter ..... Mr. Cedric Hardwicke
Lady Violet Ainslie ..... Miss Viva Birkett
Miriam Felton ..... Miss Marjorie Waterlow

The moral to be drawn from Mr. Stanley Houghton's new play, which met with a most enthusiastic reception at the Garrick on Thursday evening, is that a political leader, however popular he may be with the masses, must avoid a public scandal to retain the position he has gained. John Greenwood boldly faced the consequences of a love affair with another man's wife. He proceeded to put into practice his favourite adage, "Trust the people," and they let him down. Such things have happened in the political world, and the man who has been found out has come to the ground with the rapidity of the proverbial firework.

Mr. John Greenwood, President of the Board of Labour, has risen from the ranks. As a leader of the working classes he is a man whom his party cannot afford to ignore, and he has been made a member of the Cabinet. It is an unlucky day for him when he meets and falls in love with Miriam Felton, the neglected and badly treated wife of an unscrupulous captain in the Army. It is true that their passion is short-lived, and that they mutually agree to part for ever; but the mischief has been done. The unprincipled husband calls upon Greenwood and demands a price as an alternative to his taking proceedings in the Divorce Court. Greenwood is not a diplomatist, and he violently ejects from his rooms the blackguardly captain, who poses as an injured husband. It is in vain that the Prime Minister urges the importance of a compromise, and that the Chief Government Whip, a fussy little Welshman, points out the inevitable results of a public scandal. "I'll trust the people," cries the Labour leader, in reply to the remonstrances of his colleagues, and so he resolves to accept the Chiltern Hundreds, and then seek re-election for his native town, Blackshaw, Lancashire. Greenwood is engaged to Lady Violet Ainslie, the widowed daughter of the Marquis of Cheadle, a member of the Opposition, who is not at all favourably disposed to his future son-in-law, and would like to see the engagement broken off. An interview between Greenwood and his fiancée results in a parting, to the great satisfaction of the lady's father, who at once summons home from abroad his younger son, Lord Richard Northenden, and compels him to stand as the opposition candidate to Greenwood at the Blackshaw election.

The Labour leader's defeat by a majority of ninety-seven is brought about by an election trick planned and carried out by the wily old Marquis. In Greenwood's name he sends a telegram to Mrs. Felton urgently requesting her presence at Blackshaw. Lady Violet has hitherto refused to assist her brother in his electioneering campaign, but when she learns from her father that Mrs. Felton is at the same hotel in the town that Greenwood had made his headquarters, she, stung by jealousy, resolves to attend the last public meeting held by her brother, and to make a speech on his behalf. Her intervention decides the result of the contest. When the numbers are declared poor Greenwood loses his head completely, and violently denounces the hypocrites and cowards who have turned their backs upon him. In the second scene of this act the fierce excitement and turmoil of an election in a provincial town are graphically realised by the presence of a howling crowd of rough working-men, and a violent suffragette who attempts to horsewhip a Cabinet Minister.

John Greenwood returns to the home of his parents in Blackshaw a broken, beaten man, with no spirit left. His father, a stern old chap of the Puritan type, has already forbidden his son the house, and has voted against him at the election. But the mother's love can always be relied upon. Mary Greenwood, for the first time in forty years, sets her husband at defiance; if her son is to leave the house she goes, too, and for ever. The old man is fairly defeated, and is compelled to surrender with the best grace possible. The end of the story has already been foreseen. Lady Violet, on learning that her father has been guilty of a mean, despicable trick, in repentant mood seeks "Jack," and asks him to marry her.

As John Greenwood, President of the Board of Labour, Mr. Arthur Bourchier had a part which afforded him full scope for the exercise of those qualities which have given him a leading position among the actors of the day. The characteristics of the man who has risen from the ranks were cleverly indicated, the revulsion of feeling caused by an unexpected defeat at the poll was impressive by its intensity, and quite as effective in its way was the weary, dejected attitude of the man who in the hour of dire disaster seeks the healing salve of a mother's love. In every phase of a complex character Mr. Bourchier was entirely successful. Mr. Kenyon Musgrave also did extremely well in his telling sketch of Lord Cheadle, the artful old election campaigner, whose son, Lord Richard Northenden, had an admirable representative in Mr. Richard Neville. The Earl of Eccles, Secretary of State for Wales, a staunch friend of Greenwood's, was naturally and very pleasingly embodied by Mr. Thomas Weguelin. Mr. Herbert Bunston as the Prime Minister, Sir James Harvey-Macpherson, and Mr. Thomas Sidney as the Chief Government Whip, must be complimented upon neatly finished character sketches. Mr. John McNally gave a lifelike representation of John Greenwood, sen., that greatly pleased the audience; and an excellent companion picture was the motherly Mrs. Greenwood of Miss Barbara Gott. Mr. Frank J. Arlton was good as Nathan Brierley, and Mr. W. S. Hartford scored as Joseph Walmesley, other local celebrities being carefully represented by Messrs. P. Perceval Clark, W. Hubert, Miss Edith King, Miss Margaret Boyd as the Suffragette, Mr. Clifford Heatherley, and Mr. Hubert Woodward. Miss Viva Birkett was a womanly Lady Violet Ainslie, playing the part with natural grace and real feeling, and Miss Marjorie Waterlow ably fulfilled the requirements of the part of Miriam Felton.

Mr. Stanley Houghton's dialogue was particularly bright and telling, and after Mr. Bourchier had discussed the author's whereabouts, he brought him forward to share with the company in the extremely favourable reception accorded the new production.

Mr. P. Michael Faraday has arranged to send three companies on tour in the provinces next autumn with "The Girl in the Taxi," which will have registered its 200th performance at the Lyric Theatre on the 27th inst.

"THREE."

Modern Comedy, in Three Acts, Translated by Miss D. St. Cyr from the Italian of Roberts Bracco, and adapted by Gilbert Cannan, produced at the Little Theatre on Tuesday, Feb. 4.

Baroness Louisa Sangioyi ..... Miss Gertrude Kingston
Baron Frederico Sangioyi ..... Mr. Ben Webster
Enrico Raneo ..... Mr. Scott Craven
Battisto ..... Mr. David Hallam
Giovanni ..... Mr. R. C. Harcourt
Maid ..... Miss Joan Temple

The Baroness Louisa Sangioyi, beautiful, vain, analytical, is not content with the very obvious devotion of her husband, and finds herself dull and bored if she has not half a dozen admirers dancing round her, and professing everlastingly their undying devotion. Her spouse, the Baron Frederico, objects strongly to his wife's "exposing her attractions" to other men; but he dare not voice his annoyance as, on their wedding day, they agreed that "husband and wife must not imprison one another." She tells him that her fidelity will only continue while he leaves her free, retains his belief in her purity, and makes him think she will deceive him on the day he allows his distrust to be perceived by her.

Now the Baroness's natural desire for excitement is frustrated by lack of temptation, not one of the "strings to her bow" can awaken an answering vibration, not excepting even the fascinating Enrico Raneo of whom the Baron thinks he has most cause to be jealous. That Louisa remains deaf to his prayers is not the fault of the gallant Enrico; he is young, extraordinarily handsome, he wears beautiful clothes and a flower in his buttonhole, he is impassioned, and terribly in earnest, and never loses an opportunity of declaring his devotion. Louisa laughs at him, teases him, and taunts him with his failure; and Enrico accuses her of coquetry. "A real coquette," he retorts, "goes to meet danger half way. You are not a coquette; you are a woman, and you never defy danger." This touches Louisa's pride; but she complains that she knows of no danger to defy. The wily Enrico has a suggestion ready. "Come to rooms alone," he whispers, "to-morrow, at two o'clock." Louisa acquiesces with eagerness and declares that they will make it a duel of strength.

Shortly before two o'clock the next day, we find Enrico pacing his charming rooms, full of excited anticipation. A footstep is heard outside, and there enters, not the lady, but her husband, who, full of suspicion, has come to investigate. The two men are at once on guard; but Raneo's obvious distraction and uneasy excitement increase Frederico's doubts. He allows himself to be lured away, however, just before the lady arrives. The duel between the man and the woman begins; but Enrico's crescendo of vehemence, passion and despair does not touch Louisa's flinty heart. She admits that she is warming a little, when Batista, the servant, rushes in. "The Signor" has returned! What is to be done? The Baroness is roused at last; she must escape, her husband must not find her there. Enrico shows her the way. He offers her the key of the garden gate, but he will not give it to her; she must buy it with "one little kiss." Louisa is furiously indignant; rather than sully her lips she will face "Freddy's" wrath. She flings the key away and waits smiling, to meet her husband. He is seething with wild jealousy, which he hardly tries to control; and, threatening to kill her when he "gets her home," he leads his wife away.

Two months later we find Louisa still alive, but much bored with her existence. She and her husband, who "isn't the sort of man who kills," have become strangers to one another. She sends him an invitation to her room; he comes, and confesses that he believes Enrico to be her lover, but that, once more subjugated by her charms, he—Frederico—is ready to forgive her and take her back. Louisa reminds him of her promise to deceive him on the day he distrusts her. At last, she says, she has found a man to tempt her successfully. Freddy gnashes his teeth. "It is Enrico," he cries. This Louisa denies with peals of laughter, but Freddy remains very serious, with glittering eye he demands the man's name and Louisa confesses. "I have looked everywhere for a man with whom I can deceive you, and I have only found—yourself." Enrico arrives beautifully attired, rose in buttonhole; from the bedroom comes the sound of the voices and laughter of the pair. He listens, and is surprised; then he lays the rose on Louisa's writing-table, and steals on tiptoe from the room.

As the Baroness, Miss Gertrude Kingston, has full play for her admirable art; in her representation of the brilliant society woman she is unsurpassed, and there is about her something essentially feminine, a suggestion of depth beneath the flippant surface, which enables her to evoke sympathy as well as admiration. Miss Kingston's art has fullest scope in the second act when she realises the danger of her position and rises to meet it like the "good plucked 'un" one feels she is. She is most ably supported by Mr. Scott Craven, in appearance the personification of the magnificently endowed Latin, intemperament, magnetic, nervous and impressionable. We do not know if Mr. Craven has Italian blood in his veins, but it is certainly difficult to imagine an essential Englishman making love with such demonstrative passion. His scene with the husband, whom he endeavours to entertain while fearfully awaiting the arrival of the wife, is a masterly piece of work; and the suggestion of pathos in his final exit is extremely effective. Mr. Ben Webster can do nothing badly; and his Baron Frederico Sangioyi is clever and consistent, but the part does not give Mr. Webster a chance of displaying the full measure of his power. It speaks highly for the actor that the Baron is never despicable, but retains an impressive dignity throughout. Mr. David Hallam is quite clever in the small part of Battisto; Mr. R. C. Harcourt is excellent as the Baroness's servant; and Miss Joan Temple infuses character into the part of the maid during the very few minutes she is on the stage.

"Three" is preceded by a new comedy in one act by Gilbert Cannan entitled

"The ARBOUR OF REFUGE."

Truman ..... Mr. Bertram Forsyth
Mary ..... Miss Madge McIntosh
Gardener ..... Mr. David Hallam
Locum ..... Mr. Ben Webster
Sempter ..... Mr. Edward Rigby
Dashbord ..... Mr. Scott Craven

This is a clever little play. There is an impression of subtlety about it, vague and elusive, impossible to define, and it contains witty dialogue and thoughtful characterisation. It is a scene in the life of an actress, living apart from her husband. She has taken refuge in retirement, which is invaded by four men, who in turn offer her "four different forms of egoism," which, we gather, are duty, passion, romance (?) and work. Put to the test she chooses the last. "Women ask one thing of men; until they get it they are going to work," she says. We are left in doubt as to what the "one thing" is. It sounds very much like "the vote"! Miss Madge McIntosh plays the woman cleverly, with a fascinating blend of brains and charm. Mr. Ben Webster gives a perfectly conceived and executed study of a conceited dramatist; Mr. Edward Rigby provides a first-rate contrast as the stolid, unimaginative husband; Mr. Scott Craven is excellent as the brainless sportsman who wants to know if Ibsen is a cocoa; and Mr. David Hallam is quite satisfactory as a doddering old gardener.

THE NEW PRINCES.

On Wednesday, Feb. 5, the Play, in Five Acts, by George Daventry, entitled "THE INDIAN MUTINY."

Lieut. Manley ..... Mr. C. W. Standing
Captain Manley ..... Mr. F. C. Leister
Major Ingleby ..... Mr. Rothbury Evans
Ensign Blake ..... Mr. Wilson Blake
Terry O'Brien ..... Mr. Herbert Williams
Sergt. Thompson ..... Mr. H. Browne
Mrs. Major Ingleby .. Miss Blanche Stanley
Kate Ingleby ..... Miss Lilian Hallows
Nebu Singh ..... Mr. Henry Lonsdale
Abul Khan ..... Mr. Albert Ward
Ra Goonga ..... Mr. Philip Hewland
Mara Ba ..... Mr. Cleveland
Asfinga ..... Mr. Geoffrey Patrick
Ghaute Je ..... Mr. H. Elsworthy
Syed Rao ..... Mr. F. Doone
Rama Goosh ..... Mr. Bachner
Ghuz-nah ..... Miss Dora Barton

The choice made by the Brothers Melville for the opening of the dramatic season at the New Princes is evidently a popular one, for a crowded house greeted the revival on Wednesday of Mr. George Daventry's twenty-year-old drama, "The Indian Mutiny," which was originally produced at the Gaiety, Burnley, on Boxing Day, 1892, and has since toured extensively. The drama has been built round that historic event of 1856, when the Sepoys at Meerut broke out into rebellion. It is crowded with exciting incidents, the significance of which was not always clear, but which end in an attack by a horde of Hindoos upon a handful of English soldiers and the ultimate triumph of British arms. All the scenes are laid in India, amid ruined mosques and mountain forts. The play opens in the gorgeous court of Abul Khan, known as the Lion of Lahore, who is maturing his plots with Nebu Singh, a Captain of Sepoys, for the overthrow of the English. Singh has conceived a passion for Ghuz-nah, the supposed daughter of Abul Khan, who has had her trained as a Brahmin priestess. Nevertheless, Ghuz-nah has become betrothed to Lieut. Manley, a young English officer, and it is due to her timely assistance that the schemes of the dark-skinned demons are defeated and the rebel leader is tied to the cannon's mouth, preparatory to being blown to pieces. The villain is, however, preserved for further ill-doing, and succeeds in taking captive Ghuz-nah, who has been proved to be the daughter of an English officer by his Indian wife. He offers her the choice between giving herself to him or death, and she chooses the latter. She is bidden to cast herself from the top of a frowning precipice into the valley below, but clutches the rope attached to a flagstaff and swings into the arms of the hero who is waiting in readiness on a ledge beneath. Finally, reinforcements arrive, the rebels are beaten in a terrific battle, and Nebu Singh falls a victim to the dagger of a converted rebel, who has already disposed of Abul Khan in the same way.

The services of the Lyceum company have been secured for the revival, which is mounted on a complete scale. The most interesting performance is that given by Miss Dora Barton, who lent quite an Oriental character to the rôle of Ghuz-nah, and played with gentleness and refinement. Her impassioned acting in the more dramatic scenes was very valuable, and so vigorously did she engage in a sword combat with the villain that sparks flew continuously from the blades. Mr. C. W. Standing made Lieut. Stanley as fine a British officer as one could wish to see. His delivery was perfect, and the house was frequently moved to cheers at his stirring speeches. The ferocity of Nebu Singh was a little overdone by Mr. Henry Lonsdale, whose energies were directed towards making the rebel leader a most malignant personage. His success with the audience was emphatic and the greeting he received was most enthusiastic. Abul Khan was in the able hands of Mr. Albert Ward, who quite realised "the Lion of Lahore," and acted with passionate intensity throughout the many exacting scenes. Miss Lilian Hallows made a typical English girl of Kate Ingleby, looking very sweet in her white dress of the first act, and making an equally agreeable impression in the crinoline of the last. Her "drilling scene" with Captain Manley was taken in true light comedy vein, and Miss Hallows won the admiration of all. Captain Manley was impersonated by Mr. F. C. Leister, who cleverly combined military dash with lover-like tenderness and figured effectively in many thrilling scenes. The drollery of Mr. Herbert Williams was agreeably utilised in the part of O'Brien, Captain Manley's orderly, and laughter was abundant during his occupancy of the stage. Miss Blanche Stanley also acted in the interests of mirth, and much merriment was occasioned by Mrs. Major Ingleby's military assertiveness. Mr. Rothbury Evans was quite convincing as Major Ingleby, and Mr. Philip Hewland gave every significance to the character of Ra Goonga, whose devotion to Ghuz-nah was made very pathetic.

The picturesque scenes, the work of Mr. H. R. Browne, W. D. Hobbs, and the Lyceum Studios, were admirable, that of a Hindoo mountain fortress with the sun going down behind the hills being very impressive. The play has been dressed by John Hyman, who has supplied uniforms representative of the period which are quite a triumph of the costumier's art. The Hindoo dresses are rich and gorgeous, and add in an inestimable degree to the effect of the production.

"THE CURATE'S DILEMMA."

Farcical Sketch, by Dr. Hamilton Seymour. Produced at the Rehearsal Theatre, Maiden-lane, on Thursday, Feb. 6.

The Curate ..... Mr. Irvine Campbell
Sir Arthur de Grey ..... Mr. Langton Lane
Dr. Talbot Turner .....
Miss Sheila de Grey ... Miss Helen Cunningham
The Adventuress ..... Miss Reenie Mackie

At the little Rehearsal Theatre, Maiden-lane, on Thursday afternoon was presented a new farcical playlet, "The Curate's Dilemma." An adventuress, receiving £100 in notes and some odd gold, in payment for the adoption of twins, easily persuades a soft-hearted and simple-minded curate to "mind" the squeaking brats in a station waiting room while she goes in search of luggage she is supposed to have lost and much-needed refreshment. Of course, she does not return, taking instead a train immediately starting for Dover. Dover also is the curate's destination—on a visit to his relatives, the de Greys. In the second scene they are anxiously awaiting his arrival when a friendly doctor acquaints them of his foolishness and the consequences, and it is decided he shall be taught a lesson. On his appearance with the dusky brats in his arms the De Greys feign great indignation at his scandalous conduct, refuse to believe his tale, accuse him of being the father of the twins, and finally show him the door. But the kindly doctor, thinking things have gone far enough, intervenes on his behalf, and the adventuress is brought in, and again takes over the custody of the infants. And she is to think herself fortunate she has not been handed over to the police.

A trifle of this kind wants swift and sure treatment if the desired effect is to be obtained. This it certainly did not have on Thursday afternoon, the players apparently being never certain of their lines. The best played part was that of the doctor, but the name of his impersonator did not figure on the programme.

Mr. Dobney, who has transferred his services from Lincoln, is now in sole charge of the Palace Theatre, Scunthorpe, Lincs.

MISS JESSIE MILLWARD.

"Though, upon this occasion, I have been absent from England only between five and six years, my feelings of ineffable contentment at being once again in this dear old country are, please, better imagined than described!" remarked Miss Jessie Millward across the tea-table to a representative of this Journal who visited her at the Royal Palace Hotel one afternoon this week. "Then, too," continued the famous actress, "the journalistic and social attention which I have encountered since my arrival in Town has been most flattering—if at times somewhat embarrassing. It was, may I mention, just the same on the other Side": and the actress appeared to seek, with a glance and sigh of resignation, the sympathy of her listener.

"The penalty of popularity, Miss Millward; and, besides, your impending re-appearance in London after your triumphs in the United States is regarded with much satisfaction and as an event of considerable interest.

"Yes; the English journalist certainly does say nice things nicely," parried the actress. "However, you now embolden me to say that as the playgoing public will be so familiar with my association with the late Sir Henry Irving in many of his well-known plays at the Lyceum; the late William Terriss, and his extensive répertoire of Adelphi dramas; my Drury Lane engagements in no less notable plays; and with my appearance under Charles Frohman's management for a lengthy period in the States, there is no necessity to go into details concerning these past and pleasurable happenings.

"It was in March, 1906 (after nearly nine years' absence from England) that I made a reappearance in London. I leased Dr. Distin Maddick's beautiful classical theatre, and produced at the Scala the comedy, 'A School for Husbands,' playing the chief part, Lady Manners. After a short

[*Photo. by Sarony.*
MISS JESSIE MILLWARD.

season with this piece I returned to America, and, under Mr. Frohman's management again, to play Mrs. Wilmore in 'The Hypocrites' at the Hudson Theatre. During 1907 I toured in the same play, and in 1908 I played Lady Mereston in 'Lady Frederick' at the Hudson. Early in 1910 I appeared at the Court Theatre, Chicago, as Clara Stewart in 'The Girl in the Taxi'—when, by the way, this piece was a farce pure et simple—after the manner of 'Pink Dominoes.' It is only since it has arrived on this Side that the piece has been wedded to music and become a popular musical comedy."

"Autres temps, autres mœurs."

"Exactly; and I am pleased to observe the success now being achieved by this play. In 1911 I encountered a serious illness, and was perforce obliged to abandon stage work for a year. During the recovery stage of my illness I visited Bermuda, and went all through North and South California. In 1912 I was able to resume my histrionic activities again, and played in a one-act tragedy, entitled 'Reaping the Whirlwind,' taking the interesting Orpheum tour along the Pacific coast, under the management of Mr. Martin Beck.

"It would be interesting to learn, Miss Millward, if you observe any particular change in the aspect of any affairs theatrical since you were last playing in London."

"Why, yes, I certainly do; and in particular I am surprised to observe the dearth of plays reflecting the serious side of human nature. There would seem to be just now a plethora of plays of the lighter kind; and it appears to me that it is desirable that the theatrical balance in this connection should be more accurately adjusted. Why, the historian of theatrical annals of to-day will, it seems, have but little to record of real interest; while, if the present condition of affairs continues, the office of such historian of the future, will be but a sinecure! Do not mistake me, I pray," observed the speaker, as she remarked the gently inquiring glance of her listener; "I do not, as I believe you know, belong to the band of followers who associate themselves with the 'Knight of the Woeful Countenance," but I must confess my astonishment at now discovering in London the existence of such a condition of affairs as I have just mentioned in connection with the more important of our Metropolitan theatres. The consequence is that those who prefer plays of a real dramatic character frequent the Vaudeville houses, where the evening's programme will be found to contain an agreeable amalgamation of items of both the lighter and serious kind.

Next Monday evening, at the Chelsea Palace, I shall present a little play of this last-mentioned character. It may be described as a gripping story of the New York 'underworld,' and it is entirely new to London. Its title is 'In the Grey of the Dawn,' and it is by Mary Asquith and David [illegible]ins. This play was such a sensational success in America that I have secured the English rights; and I am therefore very hopeful that next week the opinion of London audiences will prove to be an endorsement of the verdict of their American cousins."

"'And so say all of us.'"

"The Dollar Princess" was performed at the Town Hall, Maidenhead, on Jan. 30 by Robert Macdonald and T. B. Young's company, the production being excellent in every way.

Mr. George Edwardes has secured the services on a long contract of Mr. Alfred de Manby, the baritone who came into prominence at Covent Garden in 1911. Mr. de Manby, who includes in his répertoire more than twenty operas in Italian, French, German, and English, and has recently played the lead in "The Balkan Princess" in the provinces, appears at the Palladium on Sunday in London.

REALISM IN DRAMA.

Professor W. L. Courtney, the famous essayist and critic, delivered at the Royal Society of Literature on Wednesday afternoon the first of two lectures on the subject of "Realism and Idealism in Drama." Sir Squire Bancroft, who presided, remarked in introducing Professor Courtney that he—Sir Squire—was not the least interested listener to the address who was present.

Professor Courtney, in opening, remarked that there were three ways of treating characters in drama. The first method was that of considering human beings as they ought to be and not as they are, a kind of ethical test.

The second method was that of depicting men who are neither very good nor very bad; men meaning well and doing ill. They might be described as the piebald variety. These dramatists looked at things from the scientific point of view, and were mainly experimental. They liked to show what they had discovered about humanity.

The first class could be described as optimistic, the second class were decidedly sad.

There was another class who were neither preachers nor pessimists. They had not the moral idea. They were purely artistic. They indulged in imaginative exercise. They looked at matters from a personal and individual point of view. They never painted men and women as they are, but pictured them from their æsthetic perception. They had no scientific basis. Their characters were typical rather than individual.

Referring to the antiquity of the drama, Professor Courtney said that the Greeks originally "discovered" most of the ideas of modern men. Æschylus might be typified as the discoverer of the first type of dramatist. His "Agamemnon" showed him to be an idealist, a seer, a moralist. His attitude was to justify the ways of God to man.

Euripides was typical of the third class of dramatist. His men were real men, and his women real women. His general aspect was pessimistic. He might be described as a utilitarian realist. His work was to justify the ways of men to God.

Sophocles, who was an example of the second class of dramatist, was neither a moralist nor a realist. He might be described as the purely artistic dramatist. In his works he drew the real Hellenic types.

Referring to the exemplification in history of various artistic types, Tolstoy was the idealist. G. B. Shaw was undoubtedly the preacher. His tilt was against the follies and foibles of this earth. His "Major Barbara" and "Captain Brassbound's Conversion" were examples of his attitude towards modern life. He was in many ways an idealist.

Shakespeare's Idealism.

Shakespeare, said the lecturer, is full of romance. He has the touch of the idealist. His types are live, vivid, freshly drawn. There is no ostentation about him, and no one has told us more of human nature. He tells us how things happen, and allows us to draw our own conclusion. He shows us the world as it reveals itself to an artist.

Professor Courtney then dealt briefly with the history of the drama. Drama, he said, follows the general movement of thought in the world. It is serious art in the highest sense of the term. Up to a given time in the nineteenth century the drama was artificial and unreal. In the middle of the nineteenth century it became imbued with the realism as we now see it. This was on account of the progress of science and our increased knowledge of nature, our materialism in thought, and our utilitarianism in social life. The art of drama keeps close to evolution. Earlier in the nineteenth century the drama was striving to be poetic, but now the attitude of dramatists is otherwise. They are discontented with their works. Even professors of science are discontented with their magnificent discoveries. We are only concerned with realities. Metaphysics are but talk and word weaving. Realism is the only gospel. Idealism takes strange shapes. Lytton and Victor Hugo are purely artificial and unreal. Idealism has to suffer, for realism triumphs all along the line. Work nowadays is a bitter struggle for existence amongst all people and all classes, and if life is a continual contact with environment, also it is a singularly bare and poverty-stricken thing since work leaves the soul homeless. Between their work sensitive beings demand personal compensation, and this is what the drama should supply. Realism, however, tried to get rid of the spirit of man, attempted to eliminate his soul; realism ended with a dissatisfied and querulous wail.

The twentieth century began a reaction. Pragmatism had already spent its force. Art, wearied with realism, went back to idealism, symbolism, and mysticism.

Modern drama in England had been through three or four distinct phases. Up till 1860 the dramas were for the most part adaptations from the French. But on Nov. 14, 1865, Tom Robertson gave the first impetus to creative drama which, from that date, found its feet. The play which made such a mark in the history of the drama was "Society," produced at the Prince of Wales' Theatre.

From that date French adaptations became less frequent, but a noticeable effect on English dramatists was created by the writings of Ibsen.

Romance in Drama.

Dealing with romance in drama the lecturer said most popular writers boasted of expelling romance, but romance is of nature, and nature may be expelled with a pitchfork but returns. Such plays as "The Eldest Son," "Rutherford and Son," and "The Younger Generation," caused no uplifting of the feelings similar to the effect of Shakespeare's plays. The soul felt starved. There was a rebellion against some of the forms of realism, and idealism gave room for unconquerable romance.

Macready had much influence on English drama. He had some of the instincts of modern dramatists, and possessed to almost a tragic degree the temperament of a self-castigating artist. Macready when suffering from failure was faced with the prospect of going to America. His friends helped him. John Forster and Leigh Hunt, among others, assisted him. Lytton wrote "The Lady of Lyons," "Richelieu," and "Money," which were far from the reality which the stage now requires. Lytton might be described as a sort of amalgam of different authors; but, all the same, he was a great figure in the annals of his time. Of all species of dramatic compositions that possessing a veneer of literature was the worst. But melodrama to be successful must be neither literary nor literal.

Richelieu was no closer to history than "The Lady of Lyons." What shall we say of "Money"? It had a distinguished stage history, but it owed this history to distinguished actors and actresses. 'Money" to me, said Mr. Courtney, is as insincere as any drama. Its hero is a prig, its heroine shows a refinement which kills our interest. "There are similar plays now in existence, but I would rather not mention names."

Realism made its start into existence after 1860. As has been already said, Tom Robertson was the cause. His plays are fantastic. It was probably in reference to Tom Robertson that Matthew Arnold, speaking of English drama, said: "It floated uneasily between heaven and earth; it was neither realistic nor idealistic; it was purely fantastic." Modern drama had an individuality of its own. This was owing largely to Robertson, and we should be grateful to him.

BIRMINGHAM REPERTORY THEATRE.

The Birmingham Repertory Theatre will open on Saturday with an entirely new production of Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night." The play will be divided into two parts, the interval being after Act II., Scene 5. The scenery, dresses, and properties, all specially designed for the production, have been made in the theatre, and the play will be produced by the director, Mr. Barry V. Jackson, who will, on the first night, speak a prologue written for the occasion by Mr. John Drinkwater.

The cast will be as follows:—Orsino, Duke of Illyria, Mr. Felix Aylmer; Sebastian, Mr. E. Stuart Vinden; Antonio, Mr. Frank Moore; a Sea Captain, Mr. Thomas Foden; Valentine, Mr. Ivan Firth; Curio, Mr. John Dunn-Yarker; Sir Toby Belch, Mr. W. Ribton Haines; Sir Andrew Aguecheek, Mr. W. Brunton; Malvolio, Mr. John Darnley; Fabian, Mr. Ivor Barnard; Feste, Mr. Scott Sunderland; Olivia, Miss Margaret Chatwin; Viola, Miss Cecily Byrne; and Maria, Miss Cathleen Orford.

Several of the above artistes are well known to Birmingham audiences. Miss Margaret Chatwin will be remembered for her fine performance of Constance in last year's production of "King John." Miss Cecily Byrne, whose portrait of Sylvette in "The Fantasticks" had all the delicacy and charm of an eighteenth century pastel, and Miss Cathleen Orford, as Mrs. Jones in "The Silver Box," will not be forgotten.

Mr. Scott Sunderland, who started with the Benson company, returns to Birmingham after a season with the Liverpool Repertory company, where he played, among many other parts, Algernon Moncrieff in Oscar Wilde's comedy, "The Importance of Being Earnest" and Hugh Voysey in "The Voysey Inheritance." Mr. Haines also played for three years with Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company, and since then has toured in "Pinkie and the Fairies" in the part of Uncle Gregory.

Another actor trained by Mr. F. R. Benson is Mr. Ivor Barnard, who has had a varied experience, including a season at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, under the management of Mr. Iden Payne. Mr. E. Stuart Vinden has toured all over the British Isles and America, as well as doing good work at His Majesty's and the Duke of York's Theatres. He has sustained a wide range of parts, including modern and Shakespearean ones.

Miss Madge McIntosh appeared in important Court Theatre productions, and has since done admirable work at the Glasgow Repertory Theatre. She will play Candida and Countess Kathleen. Miss Margaret Dudley, who has toured as Kitty Brant with Miss Lena Ashwell's company in "Diana of Dobson's," and for some six months was juvenile lead in Messrs. Lyn Harding and S. Cooper's "Tantalizing Tommy" company, will also be seen in future productions at the Birmingham Repertory Theatre.

"Twelfth Night" will be followed by John Galsworthy's "The Pigeon" on Feb. 22, and "Candida" will be revived on March 1. Other productions during the first season will be Ben Jonson's great comedy, "The Alchemist," St. John Hankin's "The Cassilis Engagement," W. B. Yeats' "Countess Kathleen," Masefield's "Nan," and Lady Gregory's "White Cockade." A new Shakespearean production will be given during the birthday week, and the company has been invited to give a performance of "The Silver Box" at Stratford-on-Avon during the festival.

Mr. F. A. Besant Rice will be responsible for the production of most of the modern plays. "Nan" will be produced by the general-manager, Mr. John Drinkwater. The theatre, which is the first to be built for repertory purposes in the United Kingdom, is at once beautiful, comfortable, and admirably adapted to the work in hand. The architect, Mr. S. N. Cooke, who visited the most recently constructed Continental theatres before beginning his work, has managed to combine spaciousness with the intimacy so necessary to the proper enjoyment of plays that have any literary quality. The stage has an apron that can be used for poetic plays and removed when not required, and it will be possible to see and hear without effort from every part of the house. The prices of admission are 1s., 2s. 6d., and 5s., and all seats may be booked in advance.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

"Phyllida Flouts Me." By Mary L. Pendered. 296 pages. Price 6s. net. Published by Mills and Boon.

"The Windsor Magazine for February." Price 6d. Published by Ward Lock and Co., Ltd.

"My Sketches from Dickens." By Bransby Williams. 28 pages. Price 1s. net. Published by Chapman and Hall, Ltd.

"The Thalia Diary and Directory." No. 1. For concert parties and entertainers. 1913. Price 1s. net. Published by Lorings, Ltd.

"The Thalia Diary and Directory." No. 2. For music halls and music hall artistes. 1913. Price 1s. net. Published by Lorings, Ltd.

"Only a Bookie." A novel by Captain H. S. Browning and Marie F. Salton. 217 pages. Price 1s. net. Published by Routledge and Sons, Ltd.

"The Snow Queen." A play for children. Adapted from Hans Andersen by Leonora Loveman. 89 pages. Price 6d. net. Published by George Allen and Co., Ltd.

"France." The official organ of the Franco-British Travel Union. 64 pages. Illustrated. Price 6d. Published at 33, Craven-street, Strand, W.C.

Mr. Stanley W. Ashworth, who owns the British rights of "Bardelys the Magnificent," by Henry Hamilton and Rafael Sabatini, has arranged for Mr. Laurence Burton to tour the play and to play the title part. It may be remembered that Mr. Ashworth produced the drama in conjunction with Mr. Lewis Waller at the Globe Theatre. After the forthcoming tour Mr. Burton contemplates a revival of the piece in London.

The F. R. Benson Shakespearean company were entertained on Sunday last at supper at the Great Central Hotel, Carlisle, by Mr. Henry Herbert, under whose direction the company is. There was a wait of over six hours on their way to Belfast, and this kind action of their chief was greatly appreciated by the members of the company, and tended to make the "break" a very pleasant one.

Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's remarkable play, "The Apple of Eden," is to be the attraction next week at the Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool, and will be given twice nightly. The company is headed by Miss Doris Gilham, who will appear as Queen Margaret of Slavonia, and Mr. Richard A. Green, who is cast as Julian Hanbury.

The Brixton pantomime concludes its successful run to-night, having run "twice daily" since Christmas. On Thursday evening quite a gala performance took place, Mr. Newman Maurice taking his annual benefit. The popular business-manager for Mr. Frederick Melville had a splendid reception from his admirers, while Mr. Phil Ray kindly came down to assist at the function. It is noteworthy that Mr. Newman Maurice, in addition to writing the panto., also produced it, in conjunction with Mr. Frederick Melville, and played the principal low comedy rôle of Widow Twankey.

ON THE ROAD, FEBRUARY 10.

Allah's Orchard.—King's T., Longsight.
Amazons, The.—Folkestone and Eastbourne.
Arcadians, The.—T.R., Stockport.
As Your Hair Grows Whiter.—T.R., S. Shields.
Autumn Manœuvres.—Boro' T., Stratford.
Bella Donna (Limpus).—Darlington.
Bella Donna.—T.R., Preston.
Ben-Hur.—New T., Manchester.
Benson, Mr. F. R.—Coronet Theatre, W.
Bonnie Mary.—P.O.W.T., Salford.
Brewster's Millions.—Grand T., Derby.
Bulmer, Mr.—Metropole, Gateshead.
Bunty Pulls the Strings (N.).—O.H., St. Helens.
Bunty Pulls the Strings (S.).—T.R., Plymouth.
Carl Rosa Opera Co.—King's T., Edinburgh.
Cattle Thief, The.—Gaiety T., Dundee.
Child of the Streets.—Grand, Glasgow.
Chocolate Soldier (W.).—Oswestry, Wellington, Rugby.
Chocolate Soldier (N.).—T.R., Aldershot.
Chocolate Soldier (No. 1).—Grand T., Oldham.
Chocolate Soldier (E.).—Workington and Whitehaven.
Claudian.—T.R., Castleford.
Collier's Lass (N.).—Miners' T., Ashington.
Collier's Lass, The (S.).—T.R., Woolwich.
Colombo Girl, The.—Hippo., Shildon.
Count of Luxembourg.—Tonypandy.
Dancing Mistress, The.—H.M.T., Aberdeen.
Doormats.—Hippo., Croydon.
D'Oyly Carte Opera.—O.H., Southport.
Draper, Mr. Marcus.—New T.R., Chorley.
East Lynne (Pitt-Hardacre).—Palace, Porth.
Fanny's First Play (Rignold and Macdona).—Harley.
Fatal Wedding.—Empire, Barnsley.
Find the Woman.—Grand T., Croydon.
For Wife and Kingdom.—O.H., Crewe.
From Mill Girl to Millionairess.—Brixton T.
Garrod, Mr. W. V.—Hippo., Keighley.
Girl in the Picture.—Greenock.
Girl in the Train.—Gaiety T., Ayr.
Girl of My Heart.—Metropole T., Glasgow.
Girl Who Went Astray.—Metropole, Gateshead.
Glossop-Harris Rept.—Artillery, Woolwich.
Great White Chief, The.—Hippo., Huddersfield.
Harvey, Martin.—Lyceum. Sheffield.
Hill-Mitchelson, E.—O.H., Northampton.
Hindle Wakes.—Grand T., Lancaster.
Hindle Wakes.—Grand T., Rawtenstall.
Hindle Wakes.—Court T., Wigan.
Hindle Wakes.—Grand T., Wolverhampton.
Hope, The (Dance).—Halifax.
Indian Scout, The.—Grand T., W. Hartlepool.
Kismet (Dance) (S.).—Chester.
Kismet (Dance) (N.).—Leicester.
Kit Carson.—Hippo., Neath.
Lifeguardsman, The (S.).—Hippo., New Preston.
Lifeguardsman, The.—Pavilion, Liverpool.
Lodge-Percy Rept.—T.R., Gloucester.
Lomath's, Stuart, Co.—Empire, Cradley Heath.
Lucky Miss Chance.—Maidenhead and Deal.
Man to Man.—Alexandra T., Widnes.
Marsh, Alexander, Shakespearean.—Met. T., Bootle.
Midnight Wedding.—Hippo., Bolton.
'Mid Pleasures and Palaces.—Lyric, Hammersmith.
Milestones (Blue).—Fulham Theatre, S.W.
Milestones (Fit-up).—Empire, Swindon.
Milestones (Red).—Dalston Theatre, N.
Milestones (White).—T.R., Norwich.
Miracle, The.—T.R., Kirkcaldy.
Miss Hook of Holland.—T.R., Dewsbury.
Moody-Manners Opera Co.—Royal, Barry Dock.
Mormon and His Wives.—T.R., Wolverhampton.
Mormon and the Maid.—Queen's, Farnworth.
Mother's Love, A.—Morley.
Nick Carter.—Princes, Portsmouth.
Old Folks at Home.—Grand T., Harwood.
Old Home, The.—Hippo., St. Helens.
Pink Lady, The.—Oxford and Cambridge.
Prairie Outlaw.—Empire T., Fleetwood.
Pride of the Prairie.—T.R., Barnsley.
Princess Caprice.—King's T., Glasgow.
Prisoner of Zenda.—H.M.T., Carlisle.
Quaker Girl (N.).—Huddersfield.
Quaker Girl (E.)—Stafford and Stourbridge.
Quaker Girl (S.).—Cheltenham.
Queen for a Wife, A.—Empire T., Southend.
Queen Mother, The.—T.R., Chatham.
Queen of the Redskins (N.).—Queen's Park Hippodrome, Manchester.
Queen of the Redskins (S.).—Pontardawe and Ystalyfera.
Raynor Repertory Co.—Queen's T., Leeds.
Red Riding Hood (De Lacy and Tymes).—Empire, Seaham Harbour.
Rollicking Rory.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Round-Up, The.—T.R., Ashton-under-Lyne.
Royal Divorce, A.—Grand, Mansfield.
Scrape o' the Pen.—Grand T., Hull.
Sign of the Cross.—Lyceum, Newport.
Silver King.—Colosseum, Goole.
Slave Girl, The.—Royal, Middlesbrough.
Sledge-Hammer, The.—T.R., Leicester.
Still Alarm, The.—Empire, Middleton.
Sunshine Girl (Dance).—Portsmouth.
Sunshine Girl (Edwardes).—Prince's T., Manchester.
Sweet Nell of Old Drury.—Wimbledon, S.W.
The Easiest Way.—Broadway T., New Cross.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—Empire, Holloway.
Van Praagh-Whitty Rept.—T.R., Lincoln.
Waltz Dream (N.).—Rochdale.
Waltz Dream (S.).—Birkenhead.
Ways and Means.—T.R., Worthing.
What Happened to Jones.—T.R., Oldham.
What Women Will Do For Love.—County T., Bangor, Wales.
Whip, The (Dance) (S.).—Exeter.
Whip, The (Dance) (N.).—Newcastle.
Wife for a Day, A.—Hippo., Keighley.
Witness for the Defence.—T.R., Canterbury.
Woman Pays, The.—Alexandra T., Pontefract.
Young Buffalo.—Grand T., Plymouth.
10.30 Down Express.—Varieties, Rushden.

SUNDAY'S TRAIN CALLS.

By the courtesy of the various railway companies we are enabled to give the following particulars regarding the movements of theatrical and music hall touring companies travelling by rail to-morrow:

LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

The following companies will travel by L. and N.W. route on Sunday next:—"Mother Goose," Dublin to London; Miss Alice Raymond's, Dublin to Manchester; "For Wife and Kingdom," Cradley Heath to Crewe; "Sleeping Beauty," Leigh and Bedford to Dewsbury; "When London Sleeps," Leigh and Bedford to Doncaster; "Sinbad," Earlestown to Glossop; "Aladdin." Coventry to Birkenhead; "Chocolate Soldier;" Coventry to Oldham; "Hindle Wakes," Coventry to Wolverhampton; "Aladdin," Spon Lane to Cannock; "Man to Man," Wolverhampton to Widnes; "Robinson Crusoe," Hanley to Preston; "Through Death Valley," London to Belfast; "Kismet," London to Chester; Chung Ling Soo, London to Longton; "Monk and the Woman," Southampton to Bolton; "Driven from Home," Woolwich to Nuneaton; "Midnight Wedding," London to Bolton; "Bella Donna," Leicester to Preston; "Aladdin," Dudley to Birmingham; "Milestones," Northampton to Norwich; "Arms and the Girl," Liverpool to Birmingham; "Mormon and his Wives," Liverpool to Wolverhampton; "Blackguard of the Regiment," Leicester to Northampton; "Waltz Dream," Darlington to Birkenhead; "Blind Girl's Love," Halifax to Stourbridge; "With Edged Tools," Rawtenstall to Hoylake; Mr. Geo. Edwardes' "Dollar Princess" and "Merry Widow," Ashton to Swansea; "Robinson Crusoe," Bacup to Shrewsbury; "Mormon's Wife," Macclesfield to Motherwell; "Mother Goose," Manchester to Wigan; "Alias Jimmy Valentine," Hyde to Blackpool; Dayton Family, Mossley to Millom; "Dick Whittington," Salford to Blackburn; "Prisoner of Zenda," Chorley to Carlisle; "Chocolate Soldier," Lancaster to Workington; "Lad's Love," Oldham to Dublin; "Our Miss Gibbs," Preston to Belfast; "Vaudevillians," Manchester to Dublin; "Aladdin," Hawick to Macclesfield; "Silver Creek," Carlisle to Halifax; "Glad Eye," Carlisle to Barrow; "Sinbad," Glasgow to London; "Prairie Outlaw," S. Shields to Fleetwood; Mr. F. Karno's "Wakes Week," Stockport to Belfast; "Christian," Porth to Chorley; "Lifeguardsman," Workington to Liverpool; "Cinderella," Whitehaven to Leigh and Bedford; "Babes in the Wood," Barrow to Manchester; "Butterfly on the Wheel," Wigan to Liverpool; "The Whip," Hanley to Newcastle; "Aladdin," Stalybridge to Stoke; "Pet of the Ranch," Stafford to N. Shields; "Kit Carson," Warrington to Neath; &c.

LONDON AND SOUTH-WESTERN.

The undermentioned theatrical parties will be travelling over the London and South-Western Company's system on Sunday next:—Miss Julia Neilson's company, Newport, Mon., to Wimbledon; Mr. Philip Michael Faraday's "Pink Lady," Wimbledon to Oxford; Mr. George Dance's "The Sunshine Girl," Bournemouth to Portsmouth; "The Easiest Way," Aldershot to Waterloo; Mr. Fred Ginnett's "Wild West Australia," Boscombe to Plymouth; "The Bear Leaders," Windsor to Sheerness; Maskelyne and Devant's company, Portsmouth to Leicester; "Which Did She Love?" Portsmouth to Swansea; "Mysteries of the Thames," Bordon to Margate; "Gentleman Ranker," Southampton to Reading; "Ready Money," Chatham to Bournemouth; "Canada," Portsmouth to Plymouth; John Warren's company, Aldershot to Waterloo; Chas. Kasnacs' company, Aldershot to Chatham; "The Monk and the Woman," Southampton to Bolton; "Diana of Dobson's," Waterloo to Guildford (by 2 p.m. train); the Seven Bramusas, Waterloo to Aldershot; Mr. Lawrence Brough's company, Waterloo to Portsmouth; "Varsity Girls," Southampton to Waterloo; Robbins' company, Southampton to Waterloo.

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

The following companies will travel over the above railway to-morrow (Sunday):—"Jack and Beanstalk," Cowdenbeath to London; "Scrape o' the Pen," Glasgow to Hull; "White Squaw," Glasgow to Chesterfield; Martin Harvey's company, Dundee to Sheffield; Leeburn's Stars, Rowlands Gill to Glasgow, The Craggs company, Newcastle to Edinburgh; "Girl of My Heart" Sunderland to Glasgow; Jackson Family, Sunderland to Glasgow; "Dick Whittington," Glasgow to Newcastle; Dainty Dots company, Sunderland to South Shields; Kino's Juveniles, Jarrow to Durham; "Aladdin," Gateshead to South Shields; "Collier's Lass," Newcastle to Ashington; "Cinderella," Ashington to Shield Row; Wood and Helsby company, Seaham to Willington; "Cinderella," Crook to Shotton Bridge; "Red Riding Hood," Shildon to Seaham; "Girl who Went Astray" Spennymoor to Gateshead; "Aladdin." Gateshead to Manchester and Wolverhampton; Dorinos company, Sunderland to Grimsby Docks; "Leah Kleschna," Shield Row to Scunthorpe; "Kismet," Newcastle to Leicester; "Prairie Outlaw," S. Shields to Fleetwood; "Arcadians," West Hartlepool to Wakefield; the Turner company, Bishop Auckland to Bacup; "Apple of Eden," Bishop Auckland to Liverpool; "Sorrows of Satan," Shotton Bridge to Great Malvern; "Aladdin," Newcastle to King's Cross; Rag-time Darkies, Middlesbrough to Birmingham; Frolics company, Middlesbrough to London; "Jack Horner," Middlesbrough to York; "Cinderella," Thornaby to Bury; the D'Oyly Carte company, York to Southport; "Indian Scout," Stockton to West Hartlepool; O'Mara Opera company, Scarborough to Burnley; "Bondman," Scarborough to Chorley; Lieut. Insen's company, Stockton to South Shields; "Gambler," Wakefield to Sunderland; "Bella Donna," Halifax to Darlington; "Thief in the Night," Rochdale to Stockton; Lorch Family, Manchester to Stockton; "Cinderella," Wakefield to Hull; "Great White Chief," Castleford to Huddersfield; "Colombo Girl," Leeds to Shildon; "Arcadians," Hull to Stockport; "Dick Whitington," Hull to Stockport; "Cinderella," Hull to Manchester; "Waltz Dream," Darlington to Birkenhead; "Cinderella," Darlington to Bishop Auckland; "Whip," Hanley to Newcastle; "Red Riding Hood," Longton to North Shields; "Cinderella," Batley to Fencehouses; "Forty Thieves," Leeds to Newcastle; "Robinson Crusoe," Castleford to Wakefield.

LONDON, BRIGHTON, AND SOUTH COAST RAILWAY.

Theatrical movements Sunday next:—Le Roys company, Brighton to Southend; "Ginsy Love" company, Portsmouth Town to Brighton; "Witness for the Defence" company, Brighton to Canterbury; "Find the Woman" company, Worthing to East Croydon; "Glad Eye" company, East Croydon to Torquay; Lodge-Percy company, Eastbourne to Gloucester; "White Slave" company, London Bridge to Brighton; "Nick Carter" company, Hastings to Portsmouth Town.

MIDLAND RAILWAY.

Theatrical companies en route, Sunday, Feb. 9:—Mr. Martin Harvey and company, Dundee to Sheffield; Miss Florrie Forde's pantomime, Sheffield to Bolton; "Brewster's Millions," New Brighton to Derby; "Instinct," Manchester to London; "Mormon and the Maid," Cheltenham to Moses Gate; "The Queen Mother," Mansfield to Chatham; "Cinderella," Rotherham to Warrington; "The House that Jack Built," Rotherham to Manchester; "Sinbad the Sailor," Keighley to Pontypridd; "Amazons," Burton to Folkestone; "Dick Whittington," Sutton Junction to Coalville; "Cowboy's Redemption," Glasgow to Chesterfield; "Jack and Jill," Swindon to Bolton; "A Winter's Tale," Bath to York; Marie Santoi Troupe, Leicester to Kettering; "Count of Luxembourg," Norwich to Burton; "Don't you Believe It" company, Birmingham to Nottingham; Italian Opera Company, Barnsley to Bedford; "Woman Without a Soul," Bentham to Earlstown; "King of the Gipsies," Manchester to Ystradd; "Lucky Miss Chance," Coalville to Maidenhead; Eugene Stratton's company, Nottingham to Edinburgh; "Perkins in Paris," Manchester to Birmingham; Harlequinaders, Manchester to Sheffield; "Peggy," Birmingham to Dewsbury; "Robinson Crusoe," Derby to Darwen; "Sorrows of Satan," Scotton Bridge to Malvern; "Babes in the Wood," Liverpool to Birmingham; "Mumming Birds," Altrincham to Exeter.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Mr. A. A. Strong, LL.B., has reached a third edition, and gives in simple language such parts of the law as relate to subjects with which the profession is concerned.—"The Financier."

Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable work "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at "The Era" Offices, Tavistock-street, has reached its third edition. The author has made every effort to bring the book right up to date.—"Referee," May 15, 1910.

Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published at "The Era" Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

Mr. Frank Howard has been re-engaged by Mr. Edwin T. Heys as acting-manager for the spring and autumn tour of "Hindle Wakes."

Mr. Charles Darrell has disposed of his society drama, "What a Man Made Her," to Mr. Frank Weathersby, who will shortly send it on tour.

On Wednesday evening the students of Queen's University, Belfast, mustered in force and attended the Grand Opera House, Belfast, taking possession of the gallery. Arrayed in all sorts of fantastical costumes, some of which were certainly of striking design, they had (prior to reaching the theatre) paraded the principal streets of the city, where their appearance created a veritable sensation. Mr. F. R. Benson's répertoire company produced Shakespeare's comedy, "Merry Wives of Windsor," amidst scenes of great enthusiasm, and the performance was loudly acclaimed by the students and a crowded audience. In the course of the evening, between the entr'actes, the students provided a programme of songs and music, which was vastly entertaining.

GALA CONSERVATIVE NIGHT AT THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Wednesday, Jan. 29, Messrs. Wentworth Croke and Charles Barnard held their fifth annual gala performance at this popular house, where the successful pantomime, "Jack and the Beanstalk," has been drawing crowded houses for the past six weeks. The house was tastefully decorated by the proprietors of the "Pall Mall Gazette," and the theatre was crowded. Many candidates and members from the South London districts were present, and the pantomime went with a bang. The management received the following telegrams during the evening:—

"Best wishes to South London Conservative clubs for success in the New Year.—Austen Chamberlain."

"Hearty good wishes to you in your great campaign.—F. E. Smith."

"Hearty good wishes. South London Conservative clubs; Unionists see blue water ahead. Ulster will not only save Ireland, but the Empire. Ulster's resistance is a plea for honest Government and unity. Present coalition politically immoral. They have committed so many crimes against the State it is difficult to choose the worst. If Unionist party true to itself victory is certain.—Beresford."

"Very sorry unable to be present to-night. Wish you successful evening, and believe it won't be long before Tariff Reform is successful now.—Guy Radford."

"Hope sincerely you will have most successful evening. Regret have public engagement. Will try to join you later.—Francis Lucas."

"Deeply regret prior engagement will prevent my being present. Remember me to all the South London boys.—Bull, of Hammersmith."

In consequence of the scenery for the ballet "Narcisse" having been damaged on its way from the Continent, the Russian Ballet presented "Thamar" instead at Covent Garden on Thursday night. "Petrouchka" and "Les Sylphides" remain in the programme.

Miss Annie Stalman (Mrs. Drew Mackintosh), who concluded her Christmas engagement on Saturday with Sir Joseph Beecham's "Golden Land of Fairy Tales," has been engaged by Mr. George Waters for his "Dust of Egypt" tour.

A committee meeting of the Managers' Club was held on the 31st ult., when there were present Mr. A. Bertram (in the chair), Mr. Sam Livesey, Mr. Taylor Platt, Mr. Ernest Norris, Mr. A. H. Benwell, Mr. Frank Weathersby, Mr. G. M. Polini, Mr. Herbert Ralland, Mr. Harry Barford. Mr. W. Muskerry-Tilson (hon. solicitor), and Mr. Montgomery Martin (secretary). Mr. Will Taylor tendered his resignation, which was accepted. Mr. Maurice de Frece and Mr. Alfred B. Croll were elected members of the club.

The Touring Managers' Association held a committee meeting on the same date. Present: Mr. A. Bertram (in the chair), Mr. G. M. Polini, Mr. E. Taylor Platt, Mr. Herbert Ralland, Mr. Frank Weathersby, Mr. Sam Livesey, Mr. Ernest E. Norris, Mr. W. Muskerry-Tilson (hon. solicitor), and Mr. Montgomery Martin (secretary). A member asked for advice in reference to the performance of a version of his copyright play, and the secretary was directed to reply. An artiste reported a manager for giving a cheque, in payment of salary, which was dishonoured, and the secretary was directed to say the manager is not a member, and is therefore outside the control of the committee.

Mr. Louis Victor, who has just completed nearly four years' engagement with Mr. Robert Courtneidge, is sailing for Australia on the s.s Macedonia on the 21st inst., to play principal light comedy parts in J. C. Williamson's productions. Mr. Victor's many friends will wish him "bon voyage," a prosperous sojourn "down under," and a safe return to this country.

Mr. Charles R. Stone, who is at present playing Knapman in the comedy of "Joseph Entangled," which he also produced for Miss Mabel Manneringe, will shortly appear for a special week in London as Mr. Gilbey in "Fanny's First Play" in Miss Lillah McCarthy and Mr. Granville Barker's company.

Elaborate preparations are being made for a theatrical rag-time ball in aid of the United Theatrical Charities. A powerful committee has been formed, including Sir George and Lady Alexander, Sir Herbert and Lady Tree, Sir John Hare, Mr. Cyril Maude and Miss Winifred Emery, Mr. Arthur Bourchier and Miss Violet Vanbrugh, Mr. Gerald du Maurier, Mr. Dion Boucicault, Mr. Robert Courtneidge, Mr. Granville Barker, Mr. George Grossmith, Mr. Edmund Gwenn, Mr. Dennis Eadie, Mr. William Greet, Mr. C. Aubrey Smith, Miss Hilda Trevelyan, Miss Julia Neilson, and all the leading managers in London and the provinces. Many novel and sensational effects are promised, and arrangements have been made to lay down one of the largest ballroom floors ever seen in London.

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Sivori's recital at the Lyceum Club, Paris, on Monday was a great success. The house was sold out, extra chairs being required. The Duke and Duchess de Rohan were present, and everybody was delighted. Sivori was in his best form and was loudly applauded.

The Coronet Theatre pantomime finished its run on Saturday, and Messrs. Murray King and Clark are to be congratulated on the artistic and financial success which has attended their first annual at the cosy Notting Hill house. Over one hundred bouquets and presents were given, of which the popular principal boy, Miss Queenie Leighton, received over fifty. Miss Norah Dwyer, the charming Cinderella, had amongst her numerous tributes a beautifully worked floral slipper; and Mr. Murray King, who has scored so well as Pepper, and Miss Queenie Leighton, were called on for speeches.

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THE NEW MIDDLESEX.

On Monday, Feb. 3, the Drama, entitled "UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."

The above popular play was heartily welcomed by an appreciative audience. Mr. Bert C. Wynn did well in the part of Augustine St. Clair. In the title-rôle Mr. John Henderson was particularly praiseworthy, proving himself an actor and singer of no mean order. George Harris, as rendered by Mr. Arthur Walker, was quite satisfactory; Mr. Philip Darien acquitted himself well as Phineas Fletcher; much praise is due to Mr. Wilfred H. Benson for his fine exposition of Simon Legree. Lawyer Marks was safe in the hands of Mr. Henri Dore; Mr. Brian Daley made the most possible of the character of Mr. Wilson; and the auctioneer, Mas'r Skeggs, was creditably acted by Mr. W. A. Passmore. The slaves, Sambo, Jumbo, Emmeline, and Sally, were efficiently represented by Messrs. Hunt, Osborne, Ki-Ki, Misses Crofton and Carthy respectively. Miss Mary Sharning looked and played well as Marie St. Clair; Aunt Ophelia, the Quakeress, being suitably depicted by Miss Alice Drummond. A performance that stood out prominently was contributed by gifted Miss Gertrude F. Godart, who made a capital Eliza Harris. The comedy element was much in evidence whilst clever Miss Nellie Sheffield was on the stage, her natural vivacity just suiting the part of Topsy. All her songs and dances were greatly applauded. Aunt Chloe afforded scope for Miss Amelia Simpson's ability as an actress. An exceptionally good portrayal of a difficult part was given by Miss Sybil Etherington, who undertook the impersonation of Cassy most successfully. Little Eva, as presented by a promising child actress, Lily Duyer, won the admiration and sympathy of all in front. The various songs, dances, and choruses received full justice at the hands of a powerful company supporting the principals. The incidental music was, as usual at this establishment, well in harmony with the surroundings. Noteworthy also are the elaborate scenery (by Mr. Leolyn Hart), the special dresses and wigs (by Mr. John Hyman), the stage management of Mr. Charles A. East, and the direction of the production by Mr. John Henderson.

The earlier part of the evening was beguiled by the following variety artistes:—Mr. Harold Baker, the new comedian, who achieved a distinct success in his amusing version of "A life on the ocean wave"; Lotto, Lilo and Otto, in their comic football match, mounted on cycles, and various other daring exploits on the wheel, gained many plaudits; Mr. Dion Wade, comedian and mimic, was excedingly droll. The Bioscope displayed a fine film, "Music hath charms."

Talbot and Clare conclude to-night their engagement with Gar Kiddie's pantomime, "Bo Peep," for the second year.

In our last week's issue in our report of the "East Lynne" case we stated that judgment was entered for plaintiff for £5. The judgment actually was a verdict for the plaintiff, with the remarks that the question as to the limelight was the only breach of the contract, and no order was made as to the plaintiff's costs. The judge also ordered that the defendant should have the costs of the action, subsequent to the date of the payment into court, and that the sum of £5 paid into court by the defendant denying liability be paid out to the defendant on account of his costs.

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OUR AMATEURS.

The present amateur dramatic season should be notable for the number of pieces that have been played "for the first time by amateurs," and another instance of this commendable practice was the production, by the Kit Marlowe D.S., of R. C. Carton's farce "Public Opinion," at the King's Hall Theatre, Covent Garden, on Feb. 1, though the choice of this piece, with its improbable situations and obvious construction, was not a very happy one. That the first act seemed to drag was not entirely the fault of the actors, who all worked hard. Mr. Douglas Hale and Mr. Frank Hardwick played the parts of the Mulley brothers with a sure touch, and Mr. W. Macdowall convinced us that Viscount Poffley was "not such a fool as he looked." Mr. Murray Short, with a temper "of that ilk," was peremptory and peppery as Spencer Traughton, C.B., the ex-Consul at Honduras, with a sporting taste in clothes, Mr. George Gafford being always cool and collected as Lord Percy Kilgan. Mrs. Herbert Ford did what she could with the "Miss Compton" part of Lady Diana Caldershaw, but was not as well cast as on many former occasions. Miss Cecile Dale was too much inclined to "sit down under" the failure of her blackmailing projects, but was a gorgeous figure as the "Evening Star," Pansy Bligh. In the small parts of Smeeton and Jowers, Mr. E. Jarrett and Mr. Sydney Fletcher were each individually excellent. Mr. B. Oddy worked hard as Horace Wibsey, and Miss Maude Nevitt, as Phillis Dagenham, and Miss Dorothy Mears, as the pert maid, Charlotte, gave good support. The play was produced under the direction of Mr. Sydney Wallace.

The Romany A.D.C. held a strong hand in their triple bill at the Court Theatre on Feb. 3 and 4, and led off with their best trump in "The Convict on the Hearth," by Frederick Fenn. The little one-act "comedy" was excellently acted. Mr. Herbert Passmore was well cast for the part of the human, "muscular Christian," the Rev. Cartwright Dade, and the make-up and characterisation of the Midden family, present and "to be," could not have been bettered. The gradual thawing of Convict 96 was cleverly indicated by Mr. A. Miller; Mr. W. Ward-Higgs was a realistic British workman, Midden, sen.; and Mrs. Chamberlin, as Mrs. Midden, gave one of her clever sketches of lower middle-class motherhood. Two clever children—Miss Nina Scott-Watson and Master E. J. Dobson—played naturally as Maud and Percy. Other good impersonations were the cheery Uncle Joseph of Mr. J. De Mancha; the boldly coy Amy Watersmith of Mrs. Loughnan Pendred; and the lachrymose Jenny of Miss Marie Gibbes. Miss Kate Galton's district visitor, Miss Harcourt, was inclined to be too deliberate and impressive. Mr. W. W. Jacobs's gruesome story, in three acts, "The Monkey's Paw," received a sympathetic rendering from Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Boddy, who acted capitally together as Mr. and Mrs. White; that promising jeune premier, Mr. A. A. Collinson, who was easy and natural as Herbert; Mr. W. Harold Squire, as the garrulous and impressive Sergeant-Major Morris; and Mr. H. R. Woodcock, in the small part of Mr. Sampson. The working up of the agony by the frantic knocking in the last act did not add to the impressiveness of an already thrilling situation. The humours of "The Grey Parrot," by the same author and Charles Rock, served to relieve the tension produced by the previous piece. Mr. W. Harold Tingey's sailor, Sam Rogers, was uniformly good in make-up and acting; Mr. H. S. Millett was a mild P.C. 24; Mr. A. H. Fleuret avoided exaggeration as the licensed victualler, Mr. Dobson; and Mr. James Young and Miss Marie Gibbes were good as the young couple, Jim and Mary Gannett. Miss Florence Angle played capitally as the elderly wife, Jane Rogers. The general effect of the little piece was somewhat spoilt by the intermittent nature of the accent adopted by some of the characters.

On Monday last the St. John's Amateur Operatic Society gave a performance of Gilbert and Sullivan's opera, "The Mikado," at the Passmore Edwards' Settlement, Tavistock Place. The production was very favourably received by the audience. Mr. Strickland was fairly good as Nanki Poo, but his vocal powers were somewhat lacking. The most successful performer was Mr. H. W. Mountcastle, who, as Ko Ko, kept the audience in a merry mood, and was compelled to oblige with encores of the majority of his numbers. Mr. H. E. Craymer was a most impressive Mikado, his vocal efforts being greatly enjoyed. Pooh Bah and Pish Tush were also fairly well represented by Messrs. J. Crisp, jun., and Mr. A. T. Brooks. Of the ladies, pride of place must be allotted to Miss Mary Henderson, who presented a charming and dainty performance as Yum Yum. The possessor of a most tuneful voice, she captivated the hearts of her audience with her daintiness, and her songs were most agreeably rendered. Her two companions, Pitti Sing and Peep Bo, had two graceful performers in Miss Amy Crisp and Miss Elsie M Dobrantz, and added to the success of the production. Miss Violet Schulz, as Katisha, spoiled an otherwise good performance by a lack of energy in her acting. Her vocalism, however, was excellent; she is the possessor of a splendid voice, which was heard to great advantage. The chorus was somewhat deficient in spontaneity, but the general ensemble was good. We must congratulate the scenic artists, Messrs. Brunskill and Marsh, for the pretty scenes they had painted. The costumes, provided by Messrs. Egerton and Co., also deserve a word of warm praise. Mr. Carl Selling is to be highly commended for the manner in which he performed the arduous duty of accompanying the opera. Mr. J. Crisp, the stage-manager, deserves to be heartily congratulated on the production. During the interval Mr. Barton Prior, organist, St. John's Church, Fitzroy-square, W., gave an organ recital.

It is pleasant to be able to unreservedly praise the Stage Club's very good performance of "Captain Swift" at the Cripplegate Theatre on Feb. 3, and to the producer, Mr. Sydney Ewart, the thanks of the audience are due for the short intervals and for the general smartness and completeness of the production, which was excellently staged and dressed. Where all were good it is difficult to particularise, and in the case of Mr. Eric M. Atkinson, Mr. W. Ellis Reynolds, and Mrs. Fraenkl, who took the parts of Harry Seabrook, Gardiner, and Mabel at very short notice, it was not necessary to claim much indulgence from the audience. Mr. Reynolds's Gardiner was an easy and finished performance, and Mrs. Fraenkl as Mabel, though inclined to hurry her lines, made all her points well. Mr. Lionel Cornish was effective and picturesque as Captain Swift. Mrs. W. D. Biddle carried restraint a little too far, and though she was very good in the trying scene with Wilding, gave an impression of under-acting. As the butler Marshall, Mr. C. Wills Pearson was true to type, and came out well in his interview with his foster-brother. Other parts were well filled by Mr. Yeend King as Mr. Seabrook, Mr. B. Readwin and Mr. W. Heydemann as a footman and detective, Mrs. Elsie Heydemann, who was a graceful Stella Darbisher, and by Miss Enid Moore as her aunt, Lady Staunton.

At the King's Hall, Covent Garden, on Tuesday last, the Edward Terry Dramatic Club presented "for the first time since its professional run," Sir Arthur Pinero's comic play, "Preserving Mr. Panmure." The performance was in aid of the fund for publishing Shakespeare's works in Braille, and the substantial result of this effort was stated, in a short speech between the acts, by the chairman of the British and Foreign Blind Association to be an addition of £80 to the funds. The play on this occasion owed some of its comicality, either consciously or unconsciously, to the casting of the characters. Mr. R. H. M. Spooner's make-up was hardly old enough for the middle-aged Stulkeley, but he otherwise gave an adequate rendering of the part. Mr. F. Howard Michael created much amusement as his secretary, Woodhouse. Mr. A. Cottle Green's Panmure was an unpleasantly realistic picture of the miserable humbug, though his nervous mannerisms were rather over-emphasised. Miss Monica Thorne was charming under all conditions—and they were varied and astounding—as the governess, Josepha Quarendon, and Miss Grace Cross played the part of the child Myrtle with well-observed farcical gravity. Miss G. Worth Daffern, the founder of the club, to whose energy and enterprise it owes much of its success, was sufficiently hard and "up-to-date" as Dulcie Anstie; and good work was also put in by Miss Rose Smith Rose as Mrs. Hebblethwaite, Miss Alice Mellish as Mrs. Panmure, and Miss Alice d'Egville as Miss Stulkeley. Mention should also be made of Mr. Herbert Cowan and Mr. Edwin Barnes as Alfred Hebblethwaite, M.P., and Hugh Loring.

In the Provinces.

The Torquay Amateur Operatic Society, for their sixteenth season, gave five performances of Messrs. Basil Hood and Edward German's clever comic opera, "A Princess of Kensington," at the Theatre Royal, Torquay, last week. The production was a very successful one, and reflected much credit on the members of the society. The specially augmented orchestra and well-trained chorus of fifty, under Mr. E. W. Goss, F.R.C.O., did full justice to Mr. German's tuneful music; the principal items, notably the charming duet, "Seven o'clock in the morning," sung by Mrs. Lionel Grant, as Joy, and Mr. John Perry, as Brook Green; and the infectious quartet, "We're four jolly sailormen," given by Messrs. L. Elliott, L. E. Walters, W. Pridham, and F. Cowell, as Jelf and his three shipmates, being well given and unanimously re-demanded. Mr. John Perry's fine tenor voice was heard to advantage in the stirring song, "The 'Prentices of London," deservedly encored. Mr. R. H. Reed worked indefatigably as Puck (the Imp of Mischief), and was equally good in his varied impersonations of Sir James Jellicoe, a judge, a registrar, and a drum-major. Another good piece of work of quite professional standard was the William Relf of Mr. L. Elliott, who got every ounce of merriment from the smart dialogue and amusing amatory experiences which fell to his share. Mrs. A. E. Maddox, who posseses a fine and telling voice, sang excellently as Oberon's daughter, Kenna. A special word of praise should be given to the performance of Miss Gladys Goss, who, as Dragonfly, won a perfect furore of applause for her dainty and clever dancing. The "pas seul" in each act, which had been specially arranged by Miss Hickey, was vociferously re-demanded, and little Miss Goss was the recipient of a beautiful bouquet. Mr. Arthur Harsant handled the difficult character of Azuriel well, his dignified manner successfully assisting an impersonation which in less capable hands might easily have become farcical. The piece was produced by Mr. G. Phillips.

The North Staffordshire Amateur Operatic Society last week performed at the Victoria Hall Hanley (six nights), Gilbert and Sullivan's comic opera, "The Gondoliers," giving an all round excellent performance. Miss Molly Hackney sang and acted charmingly. She has a rich soprano voice, well trained, and in good control. Miss Nancy Shirley, as Casilda, is also worthy of equal praise. Miss Lizzie Brough was well received, her singing and acting alike being excellent. Miss Nellie Wood was well placed as the Duchess. Mrs. E. Shufflebotham as Fiametta, Miss Ethel Brittain as Vittoria, Miss Edith Basham as Giulia, and Mrs. A. G. Hall as Inez all did admirably. Mr. John Walker gave a capital interpretation of the part of the Grand Inquisitor, singing and acting cleverly. Mr. Frank Toft, as the Duke, gave a finished enactment of this difficult rôle. Messrs. Norman Gibbons and Cyril Brooke made quite a hit as the Gondoliers. Mr. Butterworth sang "The jolliest fellows are we" with decided ability, and other parts were all well played. Mr Fred Marks deserves high praise for his excellent grouping and general stage effects. The scenery and costumes were first-class. Mr. J. C. Hand was a hard-working secretary, and Mr. J. P. Grime was an adroit and courteous acting-manager.

The Dewsbury Amateur Light Operatic and Dramatic Society are giving their third annual performances during this week at the Dewsbury Empire, their production this year being the delightful musical play, "Miss Hook of Holland" (by permission of Mr. George Dance). On Monday evening the spacious building was packed in every part, and the reception given the performance was most enthusiastic. Mr. R. W. Mallinson played Mr. Hook in clever style; Mr. Mallinson, in addition to this part, also acted as stage-manager, and has also been responsible for the coaching of the society, and he certainly deserves great credit for the success of the production. Miss K. Clarke enacts Sally Hook with distinction, all her numbers being admirably rendered. Miss N. Pukles submits an excellent portrayal of Mina, and was loudly applauded for her singing and dancing. Mr. L. Day is responsible for an able depiction of Simon Slinks, and amuses everybody. Captain Paap is well played by Mr. B. T. Secker, his singing and acting leaving nothing to be desired. Mr. H. Shaw is a capital Van Vayt, the bandmaster, and infuses a lot of "life" into the part. Mr. A. Wood does well as Schnapps. A fine character study of Van Eck is given by Mr. E. V. Sparkes. Miss B. Gawthorpe uses her capital voice to decided advantage. Mr. C. E. Peace (Lieu. de Coop) and Miss E. Day (Gretchen) do well in their respective parts. A pretty Russian dance in the Carnival scene is excellently executed by Miss Mary Walker and Mr. E. A. Tolson, who were applauded to the echo. The chorus is a powerful one, and the augmented orchestra, under the bâton of Mr. John Rigg, get through a lot of good work with credit. Special mention must be made of the hard work done by Mr. D. M. Lawson as secretary and business-manager, and of the hon. treasurer, Mr. H. Preston. Judging by Monday's reception and the advance booking for the week, local charities will greatly benefit by the performances. The Dewsbury Military Band supply the stage music.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

G. R.—*We can find no record of its performance.*

A. HOLME.—*We are quite unable to advise you. You want much more than training.*

EDITH A. BROWNE.—*No. You are quite mistaken. The comedy was not produced until Jan. 16, 1875.*

JAYTEA.—*We cannot say authoritatively what the practice is. It possibly varies according to circumstances.*

SYLVA VAN DYCK.—*Try the Shaftesbury Theatre, where the piece is about to be produced. The manager there should be able to tell you.*

W. HUTTON.—*Patrick Feeney died on May 13, 1889, and Nellie Farrell on Feb. 6 in the same year. We do not answer correspondents by post.*

A CONSTANT READER.—*In the quiet West-End squares, with your voice you might do well. With artistic songs and a good accompanist you might find a good field round the Stock Exchange.*

LITA SMITH.—*We have enquired of several second-hand booksellers for biographies of dancers, but have been unsuccessful in meeting with any who know of such a work. Try the British Museum library.*

NORWICH.—(1) *"How to Run a Picture Theatre," published by the "Kinematograph Weekly": E. T. Heron and Co., Tottenham-street, Tottenham Court-road, W.* (2) *Try Samuel French, Ltd., Southampton-street, W.C.*

C. R.—*"The Night Alarm" was produced at the South London by Charles Godfrey, and sung by him at other halls. The gentleman named had nothing to do with it. "The Still Alarm" is a drama that was performed at the Princess's in August, 1888. It was first produced in New York. We do not answer correspondents by post.*

BOB KING.—*We do not guarantee exact order; but the Oldham Grand Theatre; Shakespeare, Liverpool; Metropole Theatre, Manchester; Hippodrome, Hulme; Empire Theatre, Preston; Prince's Theatre, Preston; Royal Hippodrome, Preston; Royal Court Theatre, Wigan; and His Majesty's Opera House, Blackpool, are among the theatres which have the largest stages in Lancashire.*

COUSINS (Dublin).—*Since answering you last week a catalogue has been forwarded to us from Messrs. Herder, 68, Great Russell-street, London, publishers to the Holy Apostolic See. Herein we find "The Chorister's Christmas Eve," a little play for the Christmas days, with a modern legend and the old Christmas carols; "Echoes from Bethlehem," a Christmas miracle; "The Three Holy Kings," and "The Easter Fire on the Hill of Slane."*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth**, a **Marriage**, or a **Death**, or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

DEATHS.

FRANMORE.—Ida, the wife of Charles Franmore, at 93, Beever-street, Oldham, on Feb. 1. Interred at Greenacres Cemetery, Oldham, Feb. 4.

HARDING.—Jan. 25, at Widnes, Mrs. Florence R. Harding (Florrie Compton), aged 26.

HARMAN.—On Feb. 3, suddenly, at 18, Maude-road, Camberwell, Billy Harman, comedian. Deeply mourned by his sorrowing wife and son, Florrie and Willie. Farewell until we meet again. R.I.P.

NORRIE.—Jan. 26, at Burnley, James E. Norrie, ballad vocalist.

PARKER.—Jan. 24, at the Great Northern Hospital, Anne Parker (Mrs. Edwin Drew), aged 60.

SONDERMANN.—Jan. 26, at Bath, Otto Sondermann, teacher of singing, aged 70.

STUART.—Jan. 30 at 36, Seymour-street, Liverpool, Barney Stuart, comedian, aged 41.

VAN BIENE.—Jan. 23, at Brighton, Auguste Van Biene, actor-musician, aged 61.

VOKES.—Jan. 9, at Battersea, Isabella Vokes, widow of Frederick Vokes, aged 60.

WALKES.—Feb. 2, at 17, Rutland-court, S.W., suddenly, William Robert Walkes, dearly-loved husband and father, aged 59.

IN MEMORIAM.

CLEMMENTS.—In ever-loving memory of my dear husband, George Clemments (late musical-director, Hengler's Circus), who died in Dublin, Feb. 10, 1907.

FLOOD-PORTER.—In loving memory of our beloved mother (wife of Edward William Porter), who died Feb. 13, 1911. Also of our dearest sister, Gertrude Mary, who died Jan. 24, 1911.

FOR SYMPATHY.

RACHEL VAN BIENE (née de Solla), widow of the late Auguste Van Biene, and all their children, Joseph, Eva, Edward, and Benoit, wish to most sincerely thank all their friends, individually and collectively, who by wreaths, cards, letters, and telegrams, evinced their sympathy in the sad bereavement.—22, Howitt-road, Hampstead, Feb. 3, 1913.

MISS HELEN BRINCKMAN wishes to heartily thank all friends, who so kindly sent telegrams, letters, and magnificent floral tributes, on the occasion of her recent sad bereavement. She has answered each correspondent individually, with the exception of two, who did not give their addresses. She trusts, however, they will accept her grateful thanks, through the medium of this advertisement.

DEATHS OF THE MONTH.

Jan. 2.—Phyllis Maud Danby, aged 7.
" 6.—Maud Hobson.
" 7.—Maggie Brennan, aged 74.
" 9.—Isabella Vokes, aged 60.
" 9.—G. W. Reeves, aged 61.
" 10.—Alvina Engler.
" 10.—Annie Randall.
" 17.—J. W. Turner, aged 68.
" 23.—Auguste Van Biene, aged 61.
" 24.—Annie Parker (Mrs. Edwin Drew), aged 60.
" 25.—Florence R. Harding, aged 26.
" 26.—Otto Sondermann, aged 70.
" 26.—James E. Norrie.
" 28.—Rev. Arthur Brinckman.
" 30.—Barney Stuart, aged 41.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Millie Hylton—Saturday, Feb. 8.
Alma Gallimore—Saturday, Feb. 8.
J. W. Rowley—Saturday, Feb. 8.
Charles Clifford—Saturday, Feb. 8.
Lottie Addison, Sunday, Feb. 9.
Anthony Hope—Sunday, Feb. 9.
William Felton—Sunday, Feb. 9.
Harry Marvello—Sunday, Feb. 9.
Mrs. Patrick Campbell—Sunday, Feb. 9.
Miss Fortescue—Sunday, Feb. 9.
Eva Moore—Sunday, Feb. 9.
Fred S. Jennings—Sunday, Feb. 9.
Ivan Berlyn—Monday, Feb. 10.
(Miss) Sidney Crowe—Tuesday, Feb. 11.
Mona Vivian—Tuesday, Feb. 11.
Marie Lloyd—Wednesday, Feb. 12.
Kathleen Russell—Thursday, Feb. 13.
Russell Norrie—Thursday, Feb. 13.
Edgar Bateman—Friday, Feb. 14.
Charlie Rezene—Friday, Feb. 14.

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The Annual General Meeting of the subscribers will be held on the stage of His Majesty's Theatre on Friday, Feb. 14, 1913, at 11.30 for 12 noon, to receive the report of the Committee and the accounts for the year 1912.
Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree
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The attendance of subscribers is requested, and all those interested in the work of the Fund are invited to be present.
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ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
THE REPORT OF THE COUNCIL
and
ACCOUNTS OF EXPENDITURE AND RECEIPTS
and
LIABILITIES AND ASSETS
for the year ending Dec. 31, 1913.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Twenty-second ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the ACTORS' ASSOCIATION will be held on TUESDAY, Feb. 11, at 12 noon, at HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE (by kind permission of Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree) for the following purposes, namely:—
To receive a Report of Accounts of Expenditure and Receipts and Liabilities and Assets.
To elect the President and Vice-President.
To elect twenty-five Members of the Council, and to transact any further business of the Association brought before the Meeting by the Council or by any member who shall have given to the Secretary seven days' written notice thereof.
Dated this 21st day of Jan., 1913.
By Order of the Council,
DUNCAN YOUNG,
Secretary.
Members of the Profession will be admitted to the Annual General Meeting on presentation of visiting card.
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By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (London), Solicitor.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

THE ENCORE, May 26, 1910.
We have just received the third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's book on Theatrical and Musical Law, which is published at "The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand. Since the second edition of his work was published—nine years—many changes have taken place in the laws relating to entertainments, and these have necessitated a considerable enlargement of the volume. Full texts of the recent Berlin Convention and the United States Copyright Law are included in this edition, in which is also published the awards governing the relations between artists, agents, and managers. A number of new cases are also cited illustrating the effects of the barring clause. The Musical Copyright Act, children on the stage, the sketch question, and the Workmen's Compensation Act are all fully dealt with and in a readable and easy style, as free as possible from legal phraseology and technicalities. It is a legal axiom that ignorance of the law is no excuse for breaking it, and, therefore, it behoves everyone connected with the entertainment world to make himself acquainted with the law as it stands in relation to the profession or business in which he may be engaged. To every one connected with the Drama or Variety Mr. Strong's book is a necessity, and this last edition is so comprehensive that anyone who consults it can have no possible excuse for infringing the law on the ground of ignorance. The work will, no doubt, have a ready and rapid sale, for all artists, managers, and agents should have it at hand.

THE PERFORMER, May 12, 1910.
THE ARTIST'S LEGAL HANDBOOK.
We welcome a third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" Offices), as it is nine years since the second appeared, and much has happened since then, not least the foundation of the V.A.F. and the resultant Award of 1907. This will be found incorporated in the now greatly-improved and extended Appendix or Statutes, ranging from the Disorderly Houses Act, of 1751, to last year's L.C.C. Cinematograph regulations. As far as is possible with further developments in daily progress, this invaluable work of legal reference for all interested in the entertainment profession has been brought up to date. Sixty pages have been added, and the whole revised and rendered easier of reference, by the re-arrangements that have been made, and the numerous marginal headings that have been introduced. Strong, on "Dramatic and Musical Law," may be regarded as the layman's complete authority on the subject, whether he be PROPRIETOR, MANAGER, or ARTIST, and with a lucid explanation of the law so readily available, the artist will be wise to consult its pages before venturing on new contracts and agreements, whether as employed or—in these days of "combinations," sketches, troupes, and what not—as employer.

THE ERA, July 30, 1910.
Important changes in the law affecting the amusement professions have been made since the issue, nine years ago, of the second edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable book on Theatrical and Musical Law, and the third edition, just published, comes opportunely to hand. The work has been greatly enlarged, upwards of sixty additional pages being required to accommodate the mass of new information. The publication has been brought as nearly as possible up to date, and within its pages will be found analyses of important measures which have been adopted both in Parliament and out. There is, for instance, the full text of the recent Berlin Convention, and the new Copyright Act of the United States. The awards governing the relations between managers, artists, and agents are reproduced in their entirety, and a number of fresh cases illustrating the effect of the barring clauses is included.
The Musical Copyright Act, by which tardy justice was secured to song-writers and publishers, is given in full, and a digest of the measure, bringing out its salient features, is also printed. A whole chapter is now devoted to the subject of children on the stage, and the important question of the Workmen's Compensation Act is exhaustively dealt with. All the decisions of the Courts affecting theatres and music halls are referred to, many notable cases being recalled. The law governing dramatic and musical copyright is defined as clearly as its intricacies will allow, and a reliable indication of the methods to be adopted in securing protection is afforded. The progress made in the question of licensing has been too slow to allow of more than a reproduction of the terms of agreement entered into between the representatives of theatres and music halls regarding sketches, but pronouncements under that heading are numerous.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1913.

MR. H. A. JONES AND THE NATIONAL THEATRE.

Only two of the essays in Mr. HENRY ARTHUR JONES's book, "The Foundations of a National Drama," which has been published by Messrs. CHAPMAN AND HALL, deal directly with the question of the establishment of a National Theatre; but the general tone of the book, we are sorry to say, is pessimistic and discouraging. Much may be forgiven to a dramatist to whom we owe so many interesting and amusing plays; but really we have to join issue with Mr. JONES on many points in his latest publication.

And first, we must protest against his use—we might almost call it abuse—of the word "literature." He proclaims, on page 73, that the end and aim of a National Theatre is to "bring about an alliance between literature and the drama." With all due respect to Mr. JONES's opinion, it is nothing of the kind. Literature—from *litera*, a letter—is printed matter; drama—from *drao*, to do—is acted matter. Books are intended to be read; plays are intended to be listened to and seen. The drama need not worry about literature at all. If plays are worth printing and reading, so much the better for literature, which gains an addition to its store. But the drama is absolutely independent of literature, and wants no "alliance" with it whatever. It would be quite possible for a nation to have a first-rate drama, a drama very vital and intensely appreciated by the whole people, and yet to be badly off for "literature."

What Mr. JONES probably means by "literature" is "brains"—thought, reflection, logical sequence of ideas, a reasoned thesis, and an absence of cheap effectiveness and *ad captandum* matter. These qualities, as he very truly intimates, are not "everybody's money" in England. But are they "everybody's money" in France or Germany, which Mr. JONES extols so highly, either? No, says the author of "The Liars"; but the drama is a popular and pleasant amusement in those countries "on higher and different grounds." A statement like this simply takes one's breath away. Mr. JONES evidently does not read his "Era." If he did, the perusal of the plots of the new plays in Paris and Berlin which are regularly supplied by our excellent correspondents would have informed him of the nature of the popular pleasure and amusement in those capitals. The "grounds" which lead the public to "enjoy" an unclean French farce may be "different" from those on which we in London enjoy a musical play or a piece like "Charley's Aunt," but the grounds can scarcely be described as "higher."

A National Theatre is by its very nature a theatre of High Art. It does not appeal to any class, but to the superior and intelligent in all classes. It depends on the desire of fame, rather than on the "cursed hunger for cash." The Comédie Française is only assisted by Government, not kept going entirely by the State. The public support it partly. It is absurd to say we cannot have a National Theatre because the people seek amusement on lower grounds than do the populace in France and Germany. If we cannot have one, there must be, as the Professor in "Judah" says, "Some other reason."

That reason we are doing our best to discover. Up to the time of writing we have had no response to our demands for information as to the National Theatre Fund. But in all fairness, it must be stated that the secretary of the Fund early this week invited us to call upon him for the purpose of a chat, an invitation which we were unable to accept. The officials still maintain a *non possumus* attitude; the Executive Committee continues its dissensions and delays, and the policy of secrecy continues to be adhered to. We, on our part, shall continue to agitate until we have attained our object. We repeat that, by asking the public for subscriptions, even to the extent to which they have asked for them, the Fund has incurred the responsibility of making public its acts and its expenditure; we repeat that if the censorious and the suspicious attribute the worst motives to this concealment, the Fund have only themselves to thank for the misconception; that an earnest and general effort must be made to interest the public in the scheme, and get them to subscribe; and that this effort must be preceded by a "clean breast" of the past and present management of the Fund, its receipts and expenditure, its doings and transactions. Until this is done it will be impossible to enlist the sympathy of the public and the profession in the scheme, or to excite any enthusiasm in them for the National Theatre. For they will argue: if this be done in the green tree, what will be done in the dry? If this is the way the preparation of the National Theatre is conducted, how will the theatre itself be carried on? Will the balance-sheet be refused in that case, as in this? Will the unwholesome atmosphere of rumours—rumours of money wasted, of absurd salaries paid, of useless expenses incurred—surround the National Theatre in being as it has surrounded the National Theatre in expectation? Will not such an enterprise be doomed to failure from its very commencement?

We must be able to answer these questions clearly and decisively. We must be able to say: such things have been done, so much money has been spent; such are the conclusions at which the Committee have arrived. There must be no more of this un-English system of secrecy and concealment. All we do in future must be open and aboveboard. Our meetings must be reported in the Press, just as the meetings of any other Association are reported. We must "leave our damnable faces and begin."

It is easy to throw cold water on any movement; and we do not in the least agree with Mr. H. A. JONES's despondent utterances. The obstacles to a National Theatre are not essential, but personal. They are not inherent in the English character; they are artificial, and have been set up by the action of a clique. On these the force of public opinion must be brought to bear, until their position is made so intolerable that they will disgorge the required information, and do something to earn their handsome salaries besides acting as obstructors and refusing to answer legitimate enquiries.

THE NATIONAL THEATRE.

INTERVIEW WITH A SUBSCRIBER.

Anxious in the interests of fair play to ascertain if there was anything to be said in favour of the procrastinating policy of the National Theatre Fund, we have had a chat with a Subscriber to the Fund, who does not wish his name mentioned, but who may be supposed to represent the admirers of the present state of things in connection with the Shakespeare National Theatre.

"The question," he said, "is purely one of finance. The public have not responded as freely as we expected to the offer made to them; and the funds at our disposal are not sufficient to produce, if safely invested, an income sufficient to maintain a National Theatre."

"Then why not say so, and give up the idea?"

"Because we still hope the public may come forward with the money."

"But do you expect that they will come forward without being asked?"

"Now you are taking up a hostile attitude," said the Subscriber; "we don't want any hostility."

"Wherein has 'The Era' shown 'hostility'?"

"Some of the remarks in your recent leader were rather unpleasant."

"But if you want to wake people up it is of no use to whisper to them; you must speak at the top of your voice."

"Do you consider the Committee of the Fund are asleep?"

"My dear sir, it is almost two years since we printed a plan of your new site, and described the elevation of the proposed theatre as drawn by your architect. Surely there is a limit to public patience?"

"Excuse me, but how can you tell what we may have been doing? You have no information."

"What you say only makes it worse and worse. If you *have* been doing something, and you wish to stimulate the public to further donations, surely you have been most unwise—to use no ruder term—to hide your light under a bushel, and abandon all the advantages of advertisement?"

"As a man of the world, you must understand that it is necessary to keep one's intentions secret when you are negotiating for a property."

"I agree. Form your scheme for purchase, carry it out, and come to the public with a definite statement of something accomplished. You can easily get the refusal of a site in writing, and can say to the public, 'Here we are offered a good position on which to build a National Theatre. We want so much. Will you subscribe it?' We see this done every day in the case of a new church; why not in the case of a new theatre?"

"We can do nothing till we get half a million of money."

"Pardon me, but you *are* doing something. You are spending every year a portion of the capital already subscribed, and are spending it in salaries, rent, office expenses, and other items which bring no return, and may be written off as dead losses, unless you can show that you have done something besides discussing and disagreeing."

"There you have been misinformed. There is no difference of opinion on the committee. We are all united and agreed."

"So much the better, or rather so much the worse; for then there is no excuse for delay or concealment. If there is nothing to conceal, why does the secretary haughtily refuse all information to the Press?"

"He had no right to give it without the permission of the committee."

"So it comes to this: people come to us from the committee and tell us that the secretary has all the power and keeps the information. The secretary tells us he has no power to do anything without the permission of the committee. So the ball is passed from hand to hand, and the public cannot catch hold of it. Did you ever hear of a public company, association, or society in which every subscriber was not allowed to know what the body was doing? Did you ever hear of a public subscription for which no vigorous and well-advertised effort was not made to excite the public to subscribe? The fact is you are, as Mr. Wm. Poel says, 'at a deadlock.' The public will not subscribe and you will not ask them to subscribe. You have nothing to conceal, everything you have done is excellent, and yet you refuse to say what you have spent and how you have spent it, and how much you have in the bank. And if the public, by the mouth of the Press, asks for information, you call it 'impertinence,' and refuse to give any figures. And yet you expect the public, whom you treat in this fashion, to believe in you, to admire you, and to open their purse strings liberally. Really, my dear sir, you surprise me."

And as there was really nothing more to be said on the subject, our representative made his bow.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I should like, with your very kind permission, to let your readers know the true inner history of the present movement to erect a memorial to Shakespeare in 1916, since I have directly and indirectly, with voice, pen, and purse, freely and gladly in the past, done, I think, more than any man to promote a scheme to erect a National Theatre in our midst. I say this in no boasting sense, but that I did the work as a real labour of love, and with an intense desire and enthusiasm in the cause. Unfortunately, through the heavy defalcations of a partner of mine in business, and subsequent long and serious illness, I had to cease my active efforts, but I have watched the present movement closely, as I know how it was started. A public body with no funds hardly whatever, called the London Academy of Literature, or a body with some such name of which Mr. Gollancz was the paid or honorary secretary, endeavoured to raise money by using the name of Shakespeare for its operations, and they decided with the surplus to erect a statue to commemorate the tercentenary of Shakespeare's death. I at once attacked the body, in no ill-feeling, but because I knew of its real condition, and I thought, as Shakespeare belonged essentially to the great dramatic profession, and was an actor and playwright, it was not the place of this body to make an appeal for such an object; but, if they did desire to do so, it should be in the cause of a National Theatre, and for nothing else.

This they demurred to, but I was firm in the matter, and both Mr. Gollancz and the late Dr. Furnivall came to see me more than once on the matter. To back up my contention I wrote a booklet on the subject, known to yourself, which I published, wherein I showed the utter absurdity of erecting a statue, setting out the large number already erected, both here and abroad, and strongly advocating the erection of a National Theatre. I gained the day, and the great meeting at the Lyceum Theatre was the direct outcome of my sincere efforts. I objected, further, very strongly to Mr. Gollancz starting the movement, or having any power in the matter, as we did not need foreigners to do such a work, we being perfectly well able and patriotic enough to engineer such a scheme ourselves. Mr. Gollancz, I believe, is a German or an Italian, and I felt it a slur upon us as a nation that we should allow him to act as he did, quite unasked at the outset, and, as I fear, he is still allowed to do, judging by Lady Gomme's remarks to your interviewer. I say this in no disrespect, but he would be well advised to retire from the position he occupies, as he knows comparatively little about the great theatrical profession, nor has he the business training to conduct such a scheme, his occupation being that of a professor of dead languages.

Frankly, I consider his efforts an impertinence, and you have the result in the silence of the committee upon the whole scheme. I yield to no man in my intense love and desire to see a National Theatre erected in our midst, and I left no stone unturned in the past to get a scheme completed. Twice I interrogated Parliament, through the Prime Minister, as to an annual subsidy from the Government, and I had promises of over £18,000 in all from the general public. I could get no further, however; and, deeply as I regret to state it, I found that the genius of the English people was wholly contrary to the idea of a National Theatre, and that the people did not want it. Such a theatre, I found, must be based upon the people's will, and as the present movement is not, it is doomed to hopeless failure. For the sake and honour of a great profession—to which I have the honour to belong, as a past manager and playwright—and also its good name, I strongly advise that the whole of the money now in hand be returned to its donors, for the scheme will never succeed, and the public will never subscribe.

We may deeply deplore it, but it is the solemn fact, and the committee know this full well, hence its timidity and failure to take a right and proper course of action. The suspicion already aroused has nullified any good that was attached to the movement, i.e., owing to the non-publication of a properly audited balance-sheet. I speak as a business man, and state fearlessly and frankly that this fact alone is enough to utterly ruin any cause, and, sad to relate, it will do the profession untold harm, and especially later on, once the scheme has to be abandoned. I advised the bold and proper course long ago, as I have had more experience with the public than any man in the matter, and I know its views and attitude thoroughly.—Yours faithfully,

WALTER STEPHENS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—While I admire your courage in bringing to the notice of the dramatic profession the present state of affairs in connection with the Shakespeare Memorial Fund, I very much doubt if the information you have asked for—to which the public is surely entitled—will be forthcoming. If it is not, may I ask you to use your influence to call a public meeting where we may demand that the proceedings of the executive during the last three years shall be brought to the notice of the General Committee, and that the Press shall be invited to be present?

The Honorary Secretary of the Fund has reminded me on more than one occasion that there are several well-known managers on the executive who can well look after the interests of the profession. But I would point out to you, Sir, that the interests of the actor are not there represented, and that it is to the rank and file that I would appeal. Should you be able to initiate a public meeting, I hope that others, as well as myself, will be there to explain why the actor has a special right to ask for information on a matter of so much importance as a National Theatre.—Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM POEL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

The committee of the Shakespeare Memorial Fund have been so long at work without the public receiving any authentic information as to the results of their efforts, with the exception of the two sums of £70,000 and £10,000 mentioned in your issue of January 25, that it is time that the great public, who are lovers of the English language, and, therefore, of its greatest master, should agitate for definite information. If that is not satisfactory, or does not give hope of the speedy completion of the project on national lines, it should demand a new administration.

If members of the committee of the standing of Mr. William Poel have been unable to obtain either information or accounts for three years, the ordinary man in the street is bound to assume that the organising secretary has nothing satisfactory to report.

The Fund had a magnificent advertisement last year in the "Shakespeare's England" Exhibition, even though it may not have brought any immediate financial benefit. We may, I think, assume that the Fund was not responsible for the loss, if any, which the running of this exhibition may have incurred.

There is no evidence that this advertisement has been taken advantage of to launch any scheme for interesting the great mass of English-speaking people in the Shakespeare Memorial. Without their support no scheme can be really called "national."

If the present organisers cannot or will not immediately prove to the public that they have made substantial progress towards the completion of the Fund during the last three years, they should at once be asked to make room for fresh blood. A capable hon. secretary of proved initiative and administrative capacity should be appointed. He should have full authority to take advantage of the publicity that has been afforded by "Shakespeare's England" and Mrs. Cornwallis West, and interest the great mass of the 200 million English-speaking people in this memorial. Many business men with proved qualification would be proud to occupy such a position for such a purpose.

Your correspondent, "A Shade of Shakespeare," in your issue of January 25 refers to the "palatial" offices of the Fund. I think this is a little unnecessary, as it merely occupies rooms on upper floors. It is right that a fund with such a noble object should be housed in a dignified building and neighbourhood. It would be interesting to know whether the salaries and other expenses are at all commensurate with the results achieved.—Yours faithfully. ANTONIO.

MODERN STAGE LIGHTING.

By AN EXPERT.

One of the most encouraging characteristics of the British stage is a readiness to adopt new ideas. Indeed, this virtue is sometimes carried to excess and becomes a vice, when novelties are adopted wholesale in various directions simply because they *are* novelties, and not at all on their merits.

These tendencies were notably exemplified when Professor Reinhardt came among us and originated a boom which, beginning with "Sumurun," culminated in "The Miracle" and "Œdipus Rex." Every one of his novelties in the way of production, grouping, and lighting (some of which, on examination, proved not to be so very novel after all), were hailed as heaven-sent, and a host of imitators and disciples sprang up in all directions.

At this distance of time it is perhaps possible to get matters a little more accurately into perspective, and while it is not proposed in this article to discuss all Professor Reinhardt's methods, it must be admitted that he has done valuable artistic service in effecting a revolution in stage lighting. He has undoubtedly been the cause of lighting from the front becoming established as the correct and best method of illumination.

The question of stage lighting has always been a vexed one, from both the artistic and practical points of view. Sir Henry Irving was one of the first managers and producers to give the subject the attention that it merited, and he worked wonders with the means at his command.

Irving's Experiments.

It is interesting to note, in passing, that when he first introduced electricity at the Lyceum, both Sir Henry and Miss Ellen Terry found the light so harsh and unmanageable that for a time they banished it again, and reverted to gas as an illuminant.

Recent developments in electrical engineering have been of great assistance to the theatrical producer. He is now supplied with a light that is absolutely steady, and under such a complete and immediate control as was never possible in the days of gas. The introduction of "resistances," in their improved form, enables him to dim his battens, floats, and lengths by almost imperceptible degrees, till the light, if need be, vanishes altogether.

The possibilities of coloured lighting, by means of tinted globes, are something far beyond the wildest dreams of the old-time stage-manager, who had to wrestle with lengths of coloured material stretched over his gas battens and floats, with greatly increased risk of fire, if, indeed, he did not abandon any attempt at colouring his head-lights and incontinently turn them out and depend solely on his "limes."

In this latter department, too, great strides have been made. In place of the clumsy and dangerous cylinders of gas, the hissing twin jets, and risky, crumbling blocks of calcium, we have the handy, portable, and brilliant electric arc; and science has further provided us with a host of convenient lenses, projectors, and condensers.

Thus well supplied with suitable implements, it only remains for the modern producer to decide how he can best employ the means at his command to produce artistic and natural-looking results. Natural-looking, be it noted, not natural, for this is the point at which so many otherwise well-staged productions come to grief.

Being and Seeming.

Just as in acting the performers must *appear* and not *be* natural, so the scenery and lighting of the stage must be devised with the same end in view. Neglect of this axiom produces results that are often not merely inartistic, but ludicrous.

It is just this failure to distinguish between "being" and "seeming," this inability to understand the canons of dramatic representation, to perceive the limitations of the stage, that has caused Mr. Gordon Craig to be regarded with a certain dislike as an unpractical visionary, instead of being acclaimed as a great producer. But this is a digression.

To come to a practical issue, the first thing to consider in lighting a play is how to secure an even illumination, and that is why lighting from the front is necessary.

The advent of the cinematograph gave the idea to the music halls, which they were quick to adopt by using focus arcs from the back of the auditorium; brilliant and even illumination being essential in a variety theatre, where it is vital that the audience shall be able to follow accurately and without effort the movements and facial expressions of the artistes.

The theatres have always tacitly admitted the desirability of frontal illumination by framing the stage side of the proscenium opening in light, by means of the first batten, the foot-lights and side-lights, and by getting the light of the perch-limes as much up and down stage as possible.

Since the beauty of Professor Reinhardt's lighting has proved the point, several West-End theatres have set up arcs in the auditorium. Notably, some fine effects have been achieved recently at His Majesty's by lighting with powerful projectors from the dome over the central chandelier.

There is no doubt that by means of frontal lighting the entire scene may be covered with a perfect accuracy and evenness impossible so long as the lighting apparatus is confined to the sides of the stage.

A Striking Effect.

A very remarkable lighting effect was obtained from the front by Mr. Granville Barker, in the short-lived musical play, "Bonita," where, by gradually dimming every light on the stage, except a central section of the foot-lights and two powerful amber arcs working from the two top stage boxes, whose rays were focussed on the stage floor, he produced exactly the effect of a black thundercloud, from one side of which the sun shines with reduced vigour, ere it is entirely eclipsed by the bursting of the storm.

Mr. Charles Henry Phipps's "Dick Whittington" pantomime company played to good houses at the New Theatre, Maidenhead, on Jan. 30 and two following days (with matinée on Saturday).

"ARE ACTORS GRAMOPHONES?"

"ENSEMBLE ACTING."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—When "An Actor," to whom you refer in your last issue, reproached Mr. Granville Barker for his ability to play the drill sergeant, no doubt he was right. At any rate, his visualisation of a Barker rehearsal was perfectly clear. He condensed the affair into a single picture of the simplest character. On this concrete instance, Greek in its simplicity, he has elected to stand or fall.

Whether he stands depends on his having labelled his picture correctly. In my opinion, he has used the wrong label. Instead of representing the actor as the victim of Mr. Barker's method of production, he should have represented Mr. Barker as the victim of his own method. This would have led directly to a discussion of the real point at issue—the question of naturalism in its relation to the drama and acting. Thus, we should have been spared the impression of a man who puts a penny into an automatic machine and draws forth all sorts of dreary tunes that remind one of the passing of an ancient motor that has something wrong with the ignition and the exhaust. We should have been spared, indeed, the old, old questions of, Is acting a form of art? Is the actor an artist? Does the actor create? Can the actor act? Is the actor born or produced? Or does the actor just happen? Is the actor a British workman? Ought actors to join the Labour League? Has the actor an infinite capacity for taking anything—except Scotch? Such are the deep questions with which dull minds are wont to lull themselves to sleep.

Historically, the subject of naturalism is of great importance, for not only does history reveal that naturalism has been at the root of all the great creative epochs of the drama and acting, thus maintaining the invariable law which says: "Before a man can create he must be in tune with Nature"; but that, carried to excess, it has led to chaos—much as it appears to be doing in England to-day. So, looking back, we see the drama and acting breaking from stifled artificiality and cloying convention. We see the Commedia dell' Arte in active revolt against the earlier Italian conventions; the Elizabethans responding to a newly awakened desire for passion, impulse, spontaneity. We see Molière and his band of strolling players treading the eternal path of naturalism, and, passing to Germany, we see Goethe demanding a more naturalistic expression from the theatre. So the return to an intelligent naturalism continues. The Freie Bühne goes beyond Goethe; Brahm goes beyond the Freie Bühne; and now Reinhardt, who broke away in turn from the Freie Bühne naturalism as it became unnatural, and from Brahm as he carried his naturalism to excess, is initiating a new era of naturalism, and opening the door once more on impulse and spontaneity.

As in Germany, so in England, the search for naturalism has been unceasing. When Charles Kean's naturalistic style of acting began to grow stale, there was Irving ready to come forward in a more natural manner than Kean. After Irving came the new school of naturalism, which enthusiasts at once acclaimed as the thing! luminous! splendid! With Mr. Barker as its priest and prophet this new naturalistic movement has continued to grow till to-day, when the Philistines are beginning to notice it with favour. But its proportions are not Titanic as yet. Indeed, to some knowing persons it appears as a rather starved duckling with a mixed ancestry of the Deutsches Theatre, and the ghost of the Moscow Art Theatre. Mr. Barker has been largely influenced by the potentialities of its German descent, by the naturalistic movement which was promoted by Otto Brahm in Germany about thirty years ago. It was Brahm who applied the principles of ensembleism and psychological acting, and this largely for the purpose of giving Ibsen an adequate interpretation. Ibsen thus imposed his ideas on Brahm just as Shakespeare has imposed himself on Mr. Poel. Brahm's contribution to the modern theatre of ensemble acting was derived from the Meiningers, who influenced Kean, and revolutionised the idea of "crowd" management in this country; while his ideas of psychological acting were derived from Josef Kainz, one of his predecessors at the Deutsches Theatre. From this it will be gathered that ensembleism and psychological acting were ancient birds by the time they reached England.

Returning to Mr. Barker, we find that he was one of the first to promote ensemble acting in this country. The principle of the ensemble is this: That all the players are guided by a central figure, the director or producer, and all the acting is subordinated to a central idea—the author's. (This and other new ideas in productions and acting, such as intimacy, are dealt with in my overdue volume on "The Theatre of Max Reinhardt.")

Mr. Barker's application of this principle has been thorough throughout. He has never deserted it, with the result that he has fallen into the error of applying it to plays to which it is quite unsuited. Take, for instance, his Greek and Shakespearean productions. Both the Greek and Elizabethan forms of drama created their own style of acting, and such dramas can only be rightly interpreted by adapting the style of acting which they called forth. It is in the production of these dramas that Mr. Barker's modern methods overpower him.

For the sake of brevity, I have confined myself to the broad question of naturalism, as any mention of its subtle exaggerations, namely, actualism and realism, would occupy too much space. The distinction which I have in mind may be stated thus: Mr. Granville Barker is realistic, and pursues hair for hair fidelity. Mr. Poel is actualistic, and sworn to archæological exactitude. And Mr. Dion Boucicault is naturalistic, and believes in leaving something to the actor.

The question of the autocratic producer—Gilbert, Jones, Pinero, Barker, Poel, Craig—who answers largely to the interpretative conductor—Wood, Mottl, Weingartner, Richter, Wood, Beecham—is also an important one, but too involved for discussion here.

My conclusion is that, though I agree with "An Actor" that Mr. Barker is wrong in playing Shakespeare mainly upon the lines of what may be called the Ibsen-Brahm-Barker naturalism, which is a summary of the naturalism of the past two generations, instead of upon those of Shakespeare's naturalism, yet I certainly do not believe that producers are altogether to blame for the deficiencies and sorrows of the present-day actor. Nowadays, when authors are accustomed to talk overmuch, it is natural that the producer should regard actors as talking machines, into which so many words per head may be poured. But some day nearer the millenium all this will be altered. Then perhaps some new Commedia dell' Arte will arise and assert itself, and, like the old one, whose four surviving comic characters may be seen in "Turandot," at the St. James' Theatre, provide bare scenarios for actors to embroider themselves upon. But the dawn is far off, and the millenium is not yet. So for the present let us sit down and discuss the real problem as suggested by "The Era." Let us ask whether the modern dramatist is not at the root of all things evil in acting? Whether there ought not to be a break away from the prevalent unnatural naturalism in drama? Whether in the discussion dramatists ought not to be abolished? Whether, in fact, the discussion play is not a form of Asiatic cholera, seeing that to-day everybody is catching it?—Yours faithfully,

HUNTLY CARTER.

Mayfair, W.

VARIETY GOSSIP

We reproduce in this column the kindly tribute to the memory of Sir Edward Moss spoken by Mr. Cyril Maude at the meeting of the Theatrical Managers' Association on Thursday. Mr. Maude said: "I am proud also that it is my duty to pay a tribute of greatest respect and warm regard to Sir Edward Moss. He was most kind and thoughtful to me personally during the last six years of his life, and nothing I could say would express sufficiently the regret I feel at his loss, and how much the Association has lost in him a good, kind friend."

The most important item on next week's Coliseum programme is the return of Miss Irene Vanbrugh. This time Miss Vanbrugh will be seen in Mr. J. M. Barrie's new short play, "Rosalind," which, it will be remembered, was the success of the recent triple bill experiment at the Duke of York's Theatre. It is unnecessary to remark that as Rosalind Miss Vanbrugh scored a remarkable success.

During his stay in America Mr. Alfred Butt has, it seems, succeeded in acquiring for the Palace Theatre the services of Mr. Frank Tinney, a humorist who has won his way to fame by the quality of distinctiveness. Mr. Tinney is a talker whose humour is of the quiet and extremely dry order. He obtains his effects in a gentle and unobtrusive way, and his method is entirely unlike that of any other comedian in the business. He will be seen for the first time in England on Monday evening at the Palace, where Sir George Alexander enters upon the last two weeks of his engagement.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee of the L.C.C., in their report presented at Tuesday's meeting, recommended approval of drawings submitted by Messrs. Wylson and Long, showing alterations proposed to be made to the Oxford, and consisting chiefly of the provision of lobbies and doorways at each end of the existing screen to the stalls saloon, and the rearrangement and extension of the seating accommodation at the back of the first circle, involving the removal of the bar from the back of the tier to the foyer, on the prompt side of the tier.

Sir John McDougall, who has been a member of the London County Council since its creation, will not contest Poplar again in the interests of the Progressives, owing to the condition of his health. He will, however, be nominated as alderman. In 1889, and for several years following, Sir John—or plain John, as he was then—was the best abused man in the metropolis, owing to the action of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee concerning music hall and dancing licences, of which committee Mac was the most active member. He was denounced as a faddist, a "prude on the prowl," and a band of ruffians attacked his house, smashing £30 worth of window glass and carrying away the garden gates. Unintentionally, he gave the halls the finest advertisement they ever had by focussing public attention on to them. The variety boom of the 'nineties owed much to MacDougalism.

Miss Nan Stuart, who has been given the important character of Simone in "Oh! Oh! Delphine," which Mr. Robert Courtneidge is producing at the Shaftesbury Theatre in about ten days' time, only came to London some eighteen months ago, when she was engaged to take a small part in "Love Mills" at the Globe. But so impressed were the management with Miss Stuart's personality and talent that they gave her the leading rôle, which she played from the opening night to the end of the run. Since then she has appeared with Mr. Seymour Hicks, Mr. George Barrett, and others in leading parts at all the principal London halls, and has just concluded a personal triumph in "Maison Décolletée" at the London Pavilion.

Unfortunately, Miss Lottie Venne's success in Kinsey Peile's little piece "Biff" at the Tivoli was cut short by a rather severe illness, from which this popular little lady has now completely recovered, and will re-appear on Monday at the Tivoli in the comedy mentioned, supported, as before, by the author.

Mr. Joseph Wilson also announces a revival of "The Musketeers," a concert party whose success at the Oxford, Tivoli, and other of the Syndicate Halls, was very great a few years since. Mr. Bertram Wallis, who then appeared with them, is presenting them. They will include Herbert Clayton (one of the originals), Frederick Norton, and Nelson Keys. Among the former Musketeers were James Blakely, Reginald Groome, and J. W. Ivimey.

Betty Barclay and a Baritone have been unable to appear at the Coliseum this week, much to the disappointment of the many admirers of their artistic act, for which Mr. Melville J. Gideon's rag-time melody at the piano is the substitute. Like other Americans, Mr. Gideon has no reverence for musical classics, but "chaws up" Rubinstein's Melody in F with syncopation.

Miss Jessie Millward, the favourite actress of the Adelphi, Drury Lane, and Lyceum, supported by a powerful company, will make her reappearance in London on Monday at the Chelsea Palace in the sensational American success, "In the Gray of the Dawn," a gripping story of the New York "underworld," by Mary Asquith and David Higgins. The company includes Walter Gay, Lionel D'Aragon, Cecil Morton York, William Dunlop, Arthur Byron, Charles Ashby, Lilian French, Rose Morison, Doris Watson, Johnny Watson, and Maud Stuart. Miss Millward will appear as Kate Kerrigan, a "rose of the mire."

In view of Primrose Day, John Lawson will produce his sketch, "Disraeli," by S. Gordon and himself, on April 7 at Olympia, Shoreditch. The time is 1870; and the First Episode is at Bayswater, the second at Hughenden Manor. A singing prologue will be introduced, and the Lord Derby Cabinet will be shown in a tableau. In an interview with our representative Mr. Lawson said he likes his part, and hopes that his study of the great statesman will be truly Disraelian, and not the Jew of fiction.

Mr. Morris Harvey, whose mimicry and burlesque impersonations have formed an excellent feature of the Follies Entertainment, has been secured by Mr. Frank Allen and Mr. Albert de Courville for their great success, "Hullo, Ragtime!" at the Hippodrome, and will join the company on Monday.

Mr. Robert Hale, at the conclusion of his successful engagement at the Empire in "Everybody's Doing It," will join the Alhambra company in the successful revue, "Kill That Fly!"

The football match between the Tottenham Hotspur and a representative music hall team has materialised, and the directors of the famous club have informed Mr. Harry Bawn that they will be pleased to fix up a match. The date proposed is March 6, and those artistes willing to play are asked to communicate with Mr. Bawn at the Edmonton Empire. The proceeds of the match will be divided between the Music Hall Home and the Tottenham Hospital. Mr. Alfred Davies is taking a warm interest in the affair.

Mr. Oscar Berry, F.C.A., has been appointed receiver and manager of the Empire, Camberwell; Cissie Louie Lawson (Mrs. John Lawson) is the licensee; Mr. John Lawson, director; and Mr. Charles Stafford resident-manager for the receiver.

Haidée de Rance, the gifted young violiniste and vocalist, is making her usual success at the Bristol Hippodrome this week. She is next week appearing at the Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead.

Miss Louisa Peach will be at the Hippodrome, Eastbourne, next week with her duologue, "In A Corner," and on Feb. 17 at the Hippodrome, Dover, supported by Charles Lind Vivian.

"The Top of the World Rag-time Eight" is the title of a new act that will be seen for the first time on Monday at the Surrey. It is described as an absolute novelty, and as it is to be sponsored by Mr. Myrom M. Gilday (of Gilday and Fox), we anticipate an interesting and elaborate production.

"Santa Claus," the Christmas play, invented and written by Alfred de Manby, Leedham Bantock, and Harold Simpson, with music by Theodore Holland, scored a most deserved success at the Scala Theatre. Its refinement, humour, and prettiness appealed to young and old; and so dainty a fairy play should have many further spells of popularity and become a hardy Christmas annual. We are, therefore, not surprised to learn that dates are being offered for next Christmas. There should be no lack of bookings.

At the Finsbury Park Empire Mr. Horace Cole is arranging a special private matinée performance on Monday next, at 4.30, of "Everybody," and invitations are being sent to various schoolmasters and mistresses, colleges, professors, and others to see this modern morality play, which teaches its lesson through the media of an interesting story, humorous dialogue, and excellent acting.

A special matinée in aid of the Music Hall Sick Fund and Variety Artistes' Benevolent Fund and Institution was given at the Borough Theatre, Stratford, on Thursday. In spite of extra attractions and fine weather, the attendance was far from satisfactory. By kind permission of Mrs. C. Ellis-Fredericks and Mr. Fred Karno, the pantomime, "Mother Goose," was played, with Mr. Fred Emney in the title-rôle, supported by the members of the company.

Extra turns were given by Mr. Charles Coborn, Miss Mabel Mavis, Miss Fanny Hyde, Miss Lily Phelps, Mr. Harry Grey, and others. Mr. Tom Costello sent a wire expressing his regret at being unable to appear owing to the serious illness of his son. Good service in front of the house was rendered by Mr. James Leslie and Mr. Percy Forde. Amongst those present were Mr. W. J. Wainratta, vice-president, Mr. W. Bailey, hon. treasurer of the M.H Sick Fund, Mr. R. T. Baines, hon. secretary for the matinée, and Mr. T. C. Callaghan, assistant secretary.

Dr. Walford Bodie is playing to enormous business twice nightly at the King's Theatre, Greenock, and has just refused two tempting offers for a tour of South Africa, also a two months' season at Blackpool. He has only five weeks vacant this year, and is fast booking up 1914. Mrs. Walford Bodie has gone for a short holiday to the Manor House, Macduff, but will rejoin the Doctor in a few weeks' time. Next month the Doctor's youngest son goes to Marischal College, Aberdeen, where he will graduate as a doctor of medicine and master of surgery.

"Australia's Bernhardt" makes her appearance at the Kilburn Empire next Monday in a dramatic sketch called "Queen Mary of England." It deals with the last hours of the Catholic Queen. Deserted by her husband, and confronted with all her failures, she dies a beaten woman, and the curtain falls on the shouts of the crowd heralding Queen Elizabeth. Mrs. G. B. W. Lewis will be supported by a picked company of players. "Australia's Bernhardt"—as the Antipodean Press call her—comes to London with a great reputation

The case of Bessent and Son v. Chatham Empire Theatre of Varieties, Ltd., occupied the attention of Mr. Justice Darling three days last week. The action was for damages for alleged trespass on the property of Messrs. Bessent and Son, timber merchants and contractors, during the building of the Chatham Empire, Messrs. Bessent being the owners of the adjoining property. The evidence was of a technical character, and the jury found there was a trespass, but disagreed as to the question of damages. It was then arranged by consent that the decision of the majority be accepted. This was to the effect that there were no damages, but on the suggestion of the Judge the plaintiffs were awarded a farthing damages.

The Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Manchester, adjoining the Free Trade Hall and occupying a prominent central position in Peter-street, is to be sold by auction on Wednesday next at the Mart, Tokenhouse-yard, London, E.C., Messrs. Debenham, Tewson, Richardson and Co. are the auctioneers. In addition to the music hall licence it is licensed for stage plays and cinema, and is the only music hall in Manchester possessing a wine and beer licence. The house has seating accommodation for 1,000, and is held for 1,000 years from 1829 free from rent, and therefore practically equal to freehold.

As was mentioned in the "Wednesday Era" a week or two ago, the competition for succession to Sir Edward Moss as Waverley Market Christmas Carnival organiser was likely to be keen. Those who entered for the "Carnival Stakes" included a retired refreshment contractor (Mr. A. M. Ross, well known also in the realm of golf); Green and Co., Glasgow; the tramway manager (Mr. Shepherd), who is very much in the public eye in connection with the liquidation of the Marine Gardens; Sir H. E. Moss's trustees; and Mr. F. A. Lumley, an ex-champion boxer, a sports promoter, and music hall director. We hinted at the possibility of Mr. Lumley taking the place of the late Sir Edward Moss, and that anticipation has been realised. His offer for the three weeks was £2,250, and the Moss' tender was for £1,600.

Two distinguished visitors to the Manchester Hippodrome this week are Mr. C. Aubrey Smith and Miss Lilian Braithwate, who, with their full company, are presenting "Instinct," which recently drew large audiences to the Duke of York's. "Instinct"—a striking play—is an adaptation from the French by Penrhyn Stanlaws. Miss Braithwaite, after a splendid record with amateurs, made her first professional appearance on the stage in South Africa with William Haviland's Shakespearean company. In 1900 she joined Miss Julia Neilson and Mr. William Mollison. Miss Braithwaite next joined F. R. Benson and Sir George Alexander. Since then she has created many important parts.

Like Miss Braithwaite, Mr. Aubrey Smith has been associated with Sir George Alexander, and has repeatedly appeared in America. He has also toured South Africa and Australia. In the two Colonies he has captained M.C.C. teams, being a very prominent cricketer and one time captain of Sussex.

Dorothy Ward, the charming principal boy at the Court Theatre, Liverpool, has won the annual pantomime cake given by our contemporary, "The Pelican," by 1,200 votes. Miss Mabel Russell has won the principal girl cake. To both these popular ladies our heartiest congratulations.

Miss Ruth Maitland is producing a new dramatic sketch, entitled "Midnight," by Herbert C. Sargent, at the Hippodrome, Manchester, on Monday next.

William Wales, better known as the clown, William Fletcher, of the Fletcher troupe of roller skaters, died on Monday, Feb. 3, after a long and trying illness.

Mr. J. E. Donegan and the Dunedin Troupe sailed on Thursday on the Baltic for New York, taking the remains of Mrs. Donegan for interment.

Mr. James E. Donegan and family desire, through our columns, to thank all friends who have sent to them telegrams and letters of condolence in the hour of their great bereavement.

The profession will be gay indeed on the first two Sundays in March. The Water Rats have fixed their annual ball on the 2nd, and the Music Hall Railway Association's dinner and dance come off at the Criterion on the 9th.

Mr. R. T. Baines, who has held the post of secretary of the Music Hall Sick Fund for twelve years, has resigned the position, and his successor is Mr. E. J. Tranchant, assistant manager at the Metropolitan.

A new serious one-act play, "In the Library," by Mr. W. W. Jacobs and Mr. Herbert C. Sargent, is in active preparation at the London Opera House, and will shortly be produced there under the direction of Mr. Arthur Bourchier. As in the case of "The New Sin," all the parts are for men.

The Oxford announces for Monday "Ragmania," described as an original and highly syncopated phantasy, into which will be introduced some novel "harmonic scenery" and lighting effects. We are not told whether there will be "inharmonic" changes in the music, which is by Max Darewski. Mr. Ernest C. Rolls is the producer.

David L. Robinson, whom many English vaudeville artistes will remember as the popular manager of the Alhambra and Colonial Theatres, New York, when Percy G. Williams owned those two houses, died in New York on the 24th ult. at the age of forty-four. He had been in poor health for two years.

Miss Ethel Arden and Mr. Geo. Abel's company, who presented a revised version of "The Little Stowaway" so successfully at the Empire, Islington, on Jan. 6, have since played to packed houses at Camberwell, Ilford, Woolwich, and Clapham. The popular nautical playlet is due on Monday next at Shoreditch Olympia.

Mr. Charles Hannan's new one-act Scottish comedy, "The Lost Sheep," particulars and cast of which have already been given in these columns, will be produced for the first time on Monday at the London Pavilion. The same author's other Scottish piece, "The Lodgers; or, Share the Bed," opens at the Tivoli on the same evening.

Scotch comedy is becoming apparently immensely popular in the halls, and Neil Kenyon's company of Scottish actors, including Allan McDonald, will present a picture of Scotch rural life in the comedy of "The Elder of the Kirk," at the Middlesex.

This will be the lighter fare at the famous Drury Lane house. The melodramatic attraction will be the American piece, "At Cripple Creek," which will be staged in six scenes. One of the sensational incidents in the play is the rescue in mid-air by Indians of Little Tatto, the baby.

Miss Carrie Laurie asks the lady who by mistake took a black chiffon scarf with small silver sequins on it on Sunday evening from the Trocadero (Ladies' Guild Ball) to kindly return the same to her at 16, St. John's-road, Brixton. Miss Laurie treasures the scarf, as it belonged to her late mother.

"Tantalizing Terpsichore," Messrs. E. and H. Gordon Clifford's new comedy dancing episode, will make its first London appearance on Monday at the Camberwell Empire. Mr. Cotterell will be seen as Timothy—the Parisian waiter with the Cockney curiosity, who waits on both sides of the door—and Miss Violet Hope will impersonate the tantalising Muse.

Miss Norah Delaney, who filled the rôle of Aladdin at the Kennington pantomime with such distinction, opens at the Palace, Bath, on Monday next. The following week her South London friends will welcome her back to Brixton, whilst on March 24 "the girl in the uniforms" makes her first appearance in her native town of Manchester, where, four years ago, she was an operator at the Rusholme Telephone Exchange. On St. Patrick's Day Miss Delaney starts a month's engagement at the Palace, Shaftesbury-avenue.

"The Tigress" is the title of a picturesque sketch from the pen of Mr. Cecil Howard Turner, which is to be produced on the 17th inst. at the Tottenham Palace. The production is in the capable hands of Miss Rosina Filippi, and Miss Ella Erskine, who heads her own company, is to play the title-rôle, and will be supported by Mr. Noel Phelps (a grand-nephew of the great Sam) and Miss Rita Denison. The scene of the sketch is a Spanish cabaret, and Miss Erskine will dance a special dance arranged by Miss Katti Lanner. The music is by Christopher Wilson, who wrote the "Kismet" score.

Maggie Bowman and Tom Morton, who have just concluded a very successful panto. engagement, appearing as Dick Whittington and Idle Jack at the Theatre Royal, Cardiff, had a bumper house on their benefit. Miss Bowman was the recipient of a number of bouquets and presents. Owing to the success they made in the panto. they have been especially engaged by Moss' Empires to play the Empire, Cardiff, next week.

When Fred. Larola strolled into the Cosmopolitan Club late on Sunday night he found a good contingent of American performers and their wives enjoying themselves quietly. In the wee sma' hours the fun increased, and the infectious gaiety of rag-time prevailed. The Two Bobs started at the piano, and everyone put heart into it—most certainly heart; for when one of the bunch of good boys jokingly went round with the hat, appealing to everyone for the home at Brinsworth, no less a sum than £7 was realised. Joe Elvin will be pleased. Among the crowd were Jesse Jacobson, Elvin Hedges, Freddie Hedges, George Britt, Conrad and Whidden, George Hall, Bob Adams (of the Two Bobs), Louis Baum (of the Melville Gideon company), Mr. W. Williams (of Williams and Segal), and Jim Cole (of the Rag-time Jubilee). As Mr. Larola remarked to us, "Actions speak louder than words," and such golden proof of amity and good fellowship is worth just a few speeches.

FEDERATION AND FUNDS.

Music Hall Ladies' Guild.

Miss Melinda May (secretary of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild), on behalf of the committee, begs most gratefully to thank the following who so kindly posted or handed up the following donations on the night of the fancy dress ball at the Trocadero:—Mr. Ernest Edelsten, 10s. 6d.; Miss Maude Mortimer, 18s. 6d.; Mrs. Albert Chevalier, £1 3s.; Mrs. Dillon, 5s.; Mr. Frank Allen, £1 1s.; Miss Gertie Gitana, 10s. 6d.; Mr. G. H. Elliott, 10s.; Mr. Arthur Poland, £1; Mr. Walter Passmore, £1 1s.; Mrs. Pounds, 5s.; Messrs. Willson (printers), £5 5s.; Mrs. George Gilbey, £1 1s.; Mr. C. B. Cochran, £1 1s.; Miss Florrie Gallimore, £1 1s.; Beneficent Order of Terriers, £5 5s.; Mr. Marks, 10s. 6d.; Mr. Wemstein, 12s. 6d.; Miss Cissie Fredericks, 5s.; Two Bobs, £2 2s.; Mrs. Vernon Cowper, £1 1s.; Mr. Blyth-Pratt, £1 1s.; Mr. Charles Austin, £1 1s.; Mrs. Chesterfield Good, £1 1s.; Mr Barney Hyams, £1 1s.; Mr. Harry Lewis, £1 1s.; Mr. Jack Hurst, £1 1s.; Mr. Dick Stevens, £1 1s.; Mr. Clive Cook, £1 1s.; Mr. Josh Clifton, £1 1s.; Miss Lottie Albert, £1 1s.; Mrs. Fred Ginnett, £1 1s.; Miss Minnie Letta, £1; Mr. J. H. Wakefield, 10s. 6d.; Miss May Hearne, £1; Mr. J. Stuart, £1 1s.; Mr. Austin Farley, £1 1s.; Mr. Sheer, £1 1s. The following was collected by Mrs. Dillon:—Russell Trio, 2s.; Davidson Sisters, 1s. 6d.; Miss Doris Hunter, 1s.; Viennese Trio, 4s.; Mr. Bert Williams, 2s. 6d.; Mr. Cruickshank, 2s.; Mr. Willard, 2s.; Mr. Stacey, 1s.; Miss Hilda Mascot, 1s.; the Kemptons, 1s.; Miss Marie Goodwin collected 14s.; Miss Nellie Archer, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Courtney, 3s.; Miss Melnotte, 2s. 6d. Thanks are also due to Mr. Sidney Cohen for 30 bread and 20 coal tickets.

Mrs. Florence Esdaile and Mrs. Hilda Dillon have been elected to the committee.

The Beneficent Order of Terriers.

At the meeting on Sunday last, Terrier A. Dome acted as W.I., Terrier H. M. Darsie as W.D., and Terrier A. De Broan as Y.B. A hearty welcome was extended to Terriers Arthur Dome, Arthur Gallimore, Ken Gallimore, Harry Leolin, Harry Gribben, Charles Grantley, George Stebbings, Herbert M. Darsie, Chris Baker, Fred Arthur, and Walter Norman upon their reappearance in the kennel.

Terrier Arthur Were represented the Order at the Ladies' Guild ball on Sunday last, and was awarded the Abdulla company's prize for his impersonation of the Pirate King. All members of the above Order who are in town on Sunday next are requested to attend the usual meeting at 7.30, when matters of vital importance will be dealt with. The annual dinner and concert will take place at Frascati's on Sunday, April 6, 1913.

The world-famous Achmed Ibrahim troupe of real Moroccan Arabs, sons of the desert, open on Monday next at the Oxford. This will be their second return.

The poll for the V.A.F. Executive Committee election closes at 12 noon on Monday next. In the words of ragtime, "Hurry up!"

In aid of Camberwell local charities a charity match will be played at Champion Hill Grounds on Thursday, the 20th inst., between the "P" Division of Police and Camberwell United Football Clubs. Miss Victoria Monks will kick off at 3 p.m.

Mr. Matthew Boulton will shortly produce on the music halls a new sketch from his own pen, entitled "A Dog's Chance."

Harry Daniels, who is engaged to play the Eton Boy in "Mumming Birds," leaves with Mr. Fred Karno's Co. for South Africa to-day by the R.M.S. Saxon.

Mr. Claude Ohmy, of the Three Royal Ohmys, whose equestrian performances have been the theme of universal admiration at the World's Fair, Agricultural Hall, was presented on Monday by Mr. Robert Fossett, jun., with a handsome diamond pin and stud as a mark of esteem. The Royal Ohmys, we are informed, are preparing a new sensation.

One of the real successes in the Birmingham Prince of Wales' pantomime of "Twinkle, Little Star," is Little Betty Renée, who has all the gifts that go to make a prima donna assoluta. In any future development of English dancing this wonderful little lady should play no insignificant part.

It is doubtful whether England has a more promising young musical comedy artiste than Miss Bertie Adams, who has been delighting Kennington audiences with her clever interpretation of June in "Autumn Manœuvres." Certainly Australia should be proud of her clever little actress-songbird.

"Moto-Girl" opened at the Bedminster Hippodrome on Monday night with very big success at both houses. The act is billed very big with many lithographs and special announcements, Bristolians are much taken with "Moto-Girl," and the Press is enthusiastic.

Mr. Walter Stockwell, a clever comedian of the cheeriest type, is making a decided hit at the Camberwell Empire this week. He has a capital voice, and is genuinely humorous without the slightest tinge of vulgarity. All his songs, too, have rousing choruses, which are heartily taken up by the audience. His first number, "Give me the girl in the plain cotton dress," proves so successful that he is obliged to sing two further songs, "Noah, we've never seen you before," and "We don't care a button if we do walk home," each being rendered in a manner worthy of warm praise.

This is what our critic says about Walter, who has returned to the professional fold after some years' absence. He has met with many old friends, who welcome his return, among them Mr. Frank Allen, Mr. Harry Bawn, and others, and it is evident that he is not forgotten. He has received many complimentary letters from his Bristol chums, and the hearty encouragement of the public point the way to a well-filled date book. Stockwell's style is essentially of the cheeriest, and in these days of pessimism that is something to be thankful for.

Mlle. Lydia Kyasht, who has been on the Continent for ten weeks, returns to the Empire this (Saturday) evening, when she will appear in "The Reaper's Dream," a ballet-idyll in one scene, with music arranged by Cuthbert Clarke from compositions by Delibes and Tchaikowsky. With Lydia will appear Phyllis Bedells and Mr. Fred Farren, and the Russian prima donna will have the support of the Empire corps de ballet. The scene is a cornfield, and for this that excellent scene painter, Mr. Harker, is to be responsible. To the humours of "Everybody's Doing It" have been added scenes dealing with a recent gambling raid and the difficulties of the panel doctors.

ACTS, ARTISTES, AND AGENTS.

His many friends will be grieved to hear that Mr. Ernest de Vere, who had the misfortune to meet with a serious motor accident which has invalided him since Aug. 17 last year, has been obliged to return to the nursing home this week to undergo another operation. We hope to hear of his speedy recovery.

Mr. George Barclay, the well-known agent, whose health has not been good of late, underwent on Saturday a successful operation for appendicitis. As many sympathetic inquiries have been made regarding the condition of the popular George, we are glad to state that the latest 'phoned report is that the invalid is going on most favourably, and that there are no complications.

That capital young actor, Mr. George Lestocq, who is running a successful musical and dramatic agency at 1, Durham House-street, Strand, finds that his business is much increasing, and has therefore taken as his partner Mr. Jack Parson. Mr. Parson has been connected with the stage for many years, both as actor and manager.

That successful novelty, Bob Karna's Honeysuckle Company, made a welcome return to London when they opened at the Oxford on Monday evening. This act presents everything that is up-to-date in advanced club juggling, and their efforts at comedy are both original and amusing. The act is carried through briskly, and the audience throughout are alternately enwrapped with wonderment and convulsed with laughter. Bob Karna and his talented company have indeed "made good." David Hart is the sole agent for this act.

Les Valentes, two exceptionally clever Continental dancers, made their first appearance in Belfast on Monday, and proved a highly successful turn. Their engagements in this country have been secured by David Hart's Agency.

Pete and Minnie Lee and the Jackelow Trio sailed by the R.M.S. Walmer Castle last Saturday, to fulfil engagements on the Africa's Amalgamated Circuit, and next Saturday Mr. Rufe Naylor will despatch Hill and Ackerman and the Maples for the same tour.

The phenomenal success of the Moths Concert Party, at the Johannesburg Orpheum, drew record business for the second week of their season, and the local "Sunday Times" describes the party as the best of its kind that has ever visited South Africa.

The Claymore Trio, who are making a big success this week at the Camberwell Empire, are booked through Rufe Naylor's Agency.

A dramatic sketch, entitled "The Ruling Vice," dealing with the society gambling question, and played by a strong West End cast, will shortly be produced on the Gulliver Tour, through Naylor's Agency.

Mlle. Lotte Sarrow, the famous Russian musical comedy artiste, will open in London early next month in a startling mimo-drama, "She Pays the Penalty." This is her first English appearance after a triumphant tour of the Continent. Her English business is in the hands of Schultze's Agency.

A new sketch by Frank E. Potter, entitled "The Pass-word; or, The Comrade of 'The Blues,'" will be produced by Mr. John B. Shinton, at the Avenue, Sunderland, on Monday, Feb. 17.

At the conclusion of Messrs. Chas. Austin and Duncan and Godfrey's highly successful pantomime, "Aladdin," at the Empire, Ardwick Green, on Saturday last Mr. Albert Brasque was the recipient of a travelling bag from Arthur E. Godfrey, and a handsome silver-mounted walking stick from Messrs. Jimmy Leslie, Fred Beck, and Billy Barclay, as a mark of their appreciation and esteem.

Mr. Arthur White, who has been scoring in "The Pride of Byzantia" as principal comedian, has been secured by Mr. Ernest Dottridge for a term of years. It is the intention of Mr. Dottridge to send him out with "The New Detective," a humorous sketch produced last autumn for a trial week in Manchester. Mr. White, who shortly terminates his engagement with Mr. Francis Laidler, will commence his tour at the end of March with the piece mentioned.

The well-known and popular entertainer at the piano, Mr. Cooper Mitchell, recently fulfilled such a highly successful engagement at the Coliseum that he has been booked to reappear at the St. Martin's-lane house on Monday next. Mr. Cooper Mitchell's diverting entertainment comprises refined, original, humorous sketches, and songs at the piano, character sketches, musical monologues, dialect stories, &c.

Fresh arrivals at the Coliseum next week include the Three Collegians, genuine American undergraduates, who have felt the call of the stage stronger than that of study. In America their attempt to portray incidents in university life so far exceeded their expectations that they have been tempted to try their luck in England. It is their first appearance in the West-End, and they will present a skit called "The Rehearsal," depicting an undergrad's room in which three types of men are shown.

To a representative of the "Daily Chronicle" on Monday Mr. Ben Nathan, the general-manager of the London Opera House, denied the report, circulated by an evening newspaper, that Mr. Hammerstein's building in Kingsway had been sold. "The place is still the property of Mr. Hammerstein, who has leased it to the London Opera House, Ltd.," he said. "It is stated, I see, that Mr. Fernand Akoun has disposed of his interest in the lease to Mr. Edward Arthur Vesey Stanley, 'a relative of the Earl of Derby.' Nothing of the kind, I assure you—and this denial, incidentally, applies to Mr. Stanley's alleged connection with the Earl of Derby. Mr. Akoun, who has considerable interests in Paris as an amusement provider, has retired from the board. Mr. Stanley, one of the directors from the beginning, is still one of the directors, and not the managing-director in the place of Mr. Akoun."

A feature of the rag-time craze is the fact that the latest rag-time song, entitled "Dicky bird," is not American, but is written and composed by Englishmen. It will be unusual to hear American artistes sing an English rag, but the originators of rag-time in this country, the Two Bobs, are making a special feature of this new melody. The day after the song was written it was put on at the Palladium, and immediately became a success. Although only just produced, it is being played by several orchestras, and whilst rag-time is in vogue we shall probably hear it on every street organ and whistled in every street. Mr. Lawrence Wright, the publisher, has arranged for "Dicky bird" to be produced in a novel and original manner by the Palladium Minstrels.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

Though pantomime is far from being on the wane, judging from the large and appreciative audiences that nightly throng the theatres, yet engagements have to be kept and arrangements made for the future adhered to, and so, as we write, the last nights of the successful reign of pantomime are being announced throughout the country. The record achieved by Messrs. Feldman and Co. with their publications throughout the season just drawing to a close has been of the most phenomenal kind. All through the three countries, wherever pantomime held sway for the past two months, the name of Feldman has been enshrined in tens of thousands of appreciative hearts. But the fact that panto is being shut down, and variety turns once more beginning to revolve as of yore, is not exactly the problem that the talent is now struggling with—it is nothing more nor less than the pertinent query, "What is the next dish the king of musical chefs is going to put on the table?" Are we still to wax fat on a rag-time menu, or will there be a pot-pourri merely aromatised with tincture of syncopation?

That sometimes truth-telling jade, Dame Rumour, hath it that the Arthur-street king has a new form of rhythmic melody ready for exploitation; but from our experience of Mr. Feldman's sapiency, though he does not make us a complete confidant of his, we would say such is most unlikely at present. The rag-time king, whose appellation is so well merited, knows a good thing when he sees it, and especially has experience of it, as in this instance; and hence we incline to the belief that he will pin his faith to such composers as Irving Berlin and Louis Hirsch, who have brought fame and fortune to the house of Feldman in brimful—aye, in overflowing—measure. Rag-time, it is true, is not indigenous to British soil, but it is an exotic that has thriven so vigorously that one must speak of it as thoroughly acclimatised at present. It was looked on at the beginning with more than maidenly coyness, then we began to like it, and eventually we not alone made love to but wedded it; in fact, it is apparently grappled to our souls by hooks of steel. That being so, is there any reason why the Feldman larder should be overturned to make room for some problematical fare whose savour might be disagreeable to our musical digestion? Therefore, the flag of Feldman rag-time still floats proudly in the breeze.

Artistes returning from pantomime will find the Arthur-street firm ready with the goods for the coming season, and none will go away empty-handed. Of that they can be assured in advance. The Feldman emporium will be thronged with eager performers ere many days elapse, and we would advise artistes to lose no time in paying a visit to the establishment where a sure money-making equipment of the completest kind will be found ready to hand.

By the Mersey the clamour for Feldman productions is quite of an unprecedented character. At the Court, Liverpool, one of the stupendous successes of the season is being made by Miss Dorothy Ward, assisted by her husband, Mr. Shaun Glenville, the rendition of "Alexander's rag-time band" proves one of the tit-bits of the production; and "Oh! you beautiful doll" is another item in which the gifted pair are inimitable. Miss Topsy Sinden sings and dances "That mysterious rag" as only she can do, and it is indeed with the greatest difficulty she is allowed to leave the stage, for the audience are terribly insistent, and, like modern Oliver Twists, call for more. This is not to be wondered at, for Miss Sinden's rendering of the mysterious number is the personification of perfection. Other Feldman numbers featured here with the greatest success are Miss Dora Frank Harvey in "There's a girl in Havana" and "I want to be in Dixie," the latter, by the Tiller Girls, creating a perfect furore.

At the Shakespeare, Liverpool, Feldman's songs reign supreme. The principal boy, Miss Lily Morris, who must be numbered amongst the finest in the country, scores tremendously in "I want to be in Dixie." Miss Maidie Scott, the principal girl, sings in inimitable style, "If the managers only thought the same as mother." Mr. Ernie Mayne evokes great hilarity with his rendering of "Everybody's doing it." Bobby Allandale has just introduced "Good-bye Rose" with enormous success, and Miss Annie Heenan continues to make one of the most stupendous hits of the season with "Take me back to the garden of love." It will thus be seen that Feldman is not alone king of the castle, but holds the fort against all comers in the city which ornaments the Mersey. And it is the same wherever one turns—"Feldman, rag-time; rag-time, Feldman."

The great Arthur-street publishing firm is not going to have its fame confined to the halls in Great Britain, for we will soon have the Feldman melodies in their translated form sung and danced in France to Gallic time and measure. Harry Fragson is the first to carry the Torch of Syncopation across the English Channel, and there can be little doubt that he will score as heavily among our friends of the Entente Cordiale as the Two Bobs have done in our islands, with that fine lilting ditty of "Who were you with last night?"

Sheffield is turning out en masse to see Miss Florrie Forde's beautiful pantomime, "Babes in the Wood," and one of the delights of this artistic production is Miss Grace Sumner's rendition of the artistic ballad of the season—Feldman's rare jewel—"Take me back to the garden of love." In the rendering of this captivating melody Miss Sumner is assisted by her husband, Mr. Frank Sumner, and the reception accorded the pair nightly is only fittingly expressed by the word "overpowering."

It is interesting to note that "Take me back to the garden of love" was heard by Mr. Bert Feldman at Liverpool in four different pantomimes, and the manner in which the song was received at each theatre was highly gratifying to Mr. Feldman, who has ever reposed the greatest confidence in this his pet number. In Mr. John Tiller's beautiful production, "The Forty Thieves," at the Olympia, Miss Edith Jeffries sings delightfully the before-mentioned Feldman gem, and meets with deservedly great success.

The pantomime productions domiciled at the Lyceum Theatre are already famous for their all-round excellence. The foremost artistes, popular songs, real wholesome fun, and spectacular grandeur are the rule. This year's production, "The Forty Thieves," has had an exceptionally successful run from its inception, and has been a triumph for all concerned. The clever comedienne, Miss Daisy James, in particular, is covered with distinction, and filled the part of principal boy with conspicuous success. Miss James will shortly open at the Palladium and Holborn Empire, and will feature Messrs. Feldman's songs, including her great hit, "I want to be in Dixie."

The charming American comedienne, Miss Beth Tate, who instantaneously achieved popularity over here, is this week at the London Pavilion and Euston meeting with more than usual success. She is making a special feature of Messrs. Feldman's "Dear old winter-time," a fine song which promises to make its presence felt during the coming season.

That noble house, the Empire, Leicester-square, which makes a practice of introducing novel and meritorious acts, includes this week in its programme the Three Rascals, who are pleasing its aristocratic patrons hugely. The naughty trio are singing with much success Messrs. Feldman's "I want to be in Dixie" and "The rag-time jockey man," numbers which can dispense with any laudatory remarks.

The existence of frequenters of the Shoreditch Empire and Surrey Theatre is being brightened this week by the cheery presence of Miss Jen Latona. Her spirited rendering of Messrs. Feldman's rag-time hit, "I want to be in Dixie," is greatly appreciated. This is followed by "Rum Tum Tiddle," a rollicking number which also meets with much approval. A really clever light comedy number is "Blowed if the fellows can do without the girls," which specially appeals. This is interpreted in great style by the popular comedienne.

The Alhambra revue, "Kill That Fly," continues to attract large and appreciative audiences. Many Feldman publications are being featured in this excellent production, among which may be mentioned "The rag-time jockey," "The Gaby Glide," "On the Mississippi," and "Moonlight bay." The special racecourse scene, in which "The rag-time jockey" is featured, is perhaps the most popular feature. The composer himself, Mr. Louis Hirsch, plays "The Gaby Glide" as being representative of rag-time.

The Rag-time Six are this week at the Southampton Hippodrome continuing the great success with Messrs. Feldman's "Rag-time soldier man," "Be my little baby bumble bee," and "The rag-time jockey." Their fresh and cheery performance at once puts them on good terms with the public, and an extremely pleasant stay can be predicted for these newcomers from America.

Birmingham, although the principal city of the "black country," is considerably brighter for the presence of the Australian star, Miss Irene Dillon, who has been playing principal girl in panto there. Her exhilarating rendering of Messrs. Feldman's "I want to be in Dixie," "Rag-time violin," and "Mysterious rag," has gladdened the hearts of the inhabitants, who have a very high opinion of this charming comedienne.

Brandt and James, the rag-time comedy duo, are this week at the Grand, Gravesend, experiencing great success with a repertoire consisting entirely of Feldman numbers, viz., "Mysterious moon," "Rag-time violin," "Beautiful doll," "Ghost of the violin," "Uncle Joe," "I want to be in Dixie," and "Everybody two-step."

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WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

Where all items on a programme may be classed "excellent" it would be invidious to select one turn for especial praise. The better and juster plan is to take them as they come on the bill. Sybil Janette is a dainty comedienne and a charming dancer. Conway and Leland, "the merry monopedes," are extremely clever, and might serve as an object-lesson in teaching the public how it is possible to be mirth-provoking and agile while suffering under the disadvantage of a limited supply of limbs. Their act is both very clever and amusing. It might, indeed, be described as extraordinary, under the circumstances. Mr. Arthur Lennard is a character vocalist of no mean ability; a fine voice and an excellent idea of acting his songs. "The sights of London" is very good, while "I've been dreaming" has a haunting influence. Fred Wilkinson, assisted by Ruby Major, is a capital pierrot magician. The Three Van Dammes are responsible for no end of merriment and astonishment in their comedy acrobatic doings, a scene from "Happy Holland," which appeals mightily to the astonishment and pleasure of the audience. Fred Douglas deserves his description of "versatile coon," his two songs, "Welcome, my Sadie," and "A long time gone," being admirably rendered, while his dancing is as light and nimble as the most fastidious could wish for. Mart and Pep are acrobatic hand-to-hand balancers and tumblers who would take a lot of beating in their line. Miss Aimee Roberts is a dialect comedienne of the highest class, her two contributions to the gaiety of the evening being wonderful, artistic and clever. In a very fetching costume, Miss Roberts is excellent in a North Country song with admirable accent, which is followed by a "Cockney" contribution of equal excellence. The charming actress and vocalist is making a big hit this week. Joe Peterman "presents" Jimmy Learmouth as Milkey in "The Stationmaster," and he could have hardly presented a sketch more thoroughly acceptable to his audience. Mr. Learmouth's performance is a feast of fun from start to finish.

Mr. H. G. Spry, of Sydney Hyman's company, writes:—"Just arrived Madeira. All well and having a good time. Kind thoughts to all friends. We are en route to Africa, Australia, and New Zealand."

Mr. Charles Gulliver has decided to give the sum of ten pounds to charity in a novel manner. Being impressed by the number of clergymen who have visited the Palladium Minstrels during their successful season at that house, and realising that their presence there testifies to the clean nature of the entertainment, he has decided to present to the thousandth clergyman—irrespective of creed—the above amount for distribution to any charity the recipient may choose. Exactly 876 representatives of various denominations had visited the Minstrel show up to Jan. 30.

Originally it was intended that the new Empire revue should be quite English, but now an international complexion is to be given to it by the introduction of the prevailing rag-time. Although not appearing in it, Mr. Fred Farren will produce. The strong company will include Mr. Lionel Mackinder, who will return after a year's absence, Miss Effie Cocke, from the Follies, and Miss Maidie Hope, who has done so much good work with Mr. Cyril Maude at the Playhouse. Of course, Mr. Vernon Watson, Miss Ida Curtis, and Miss Unity More are retained. The author is Mr. C. H. Bovill. "Everybody's Doing It" reaches its anniversary on Friday next.

The chief attraction of the vaudeville entertainment organised by Miss Floyd Ariston and Mrs. Albert Bradshaw at the King's Hall, Covent Garden, on Saturday, for the benefit of the Children's Dinner Fund of the London Vegetarian Association, will be the Masque of St. Valentine, in which a number of distinguished and well-known people will appear. The chief scenes are laid in the Palm Court of the Waldorf Hotel, and the atelier of a Bond-street dressmaker. The masque has been arranged by Mr. F. A. Wills, and written by Mr. Neil Erskine, who is also responsible for the production. There will be three short plays, and many individual items in the programme.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

EUSTON PALACE.

Another capital bill of fare is provided at the Euston Palace of Varieties this week, and good support is being extended to it by the neighbouring public. There is plenty of fun, besides excellent singing and dancing. Apart from infinite variety, more than a touch of tragedy and pathos surrounds what proves to be an intensely interesting sketch by Messrs. Damerell, Rutland, and Denton, and presented by William F. Grant and company, entitled

"MR. VANDERHYDE IS OUT."

Julian Braithwaite ..... Mr. Wm. F. Grant
Dudley Howden ..... Mr. Jackson Wilcox
Max Vanderhyde ..... Mr. Norton Hayne

The scene is laid in Vanderhyde's studio, 3, Pinxit Studios, West Hampstead, the time being night. Following music appropriately weird and suggestive of what is to come, the audience's attention is abruptly arrested by the sharp report of a pistol. The curtain rises on a darkened stage, where a man appears to be moving stealthily and uneasily, soliloquising in a confused and subdued manner, much as a man would after perpetrating crime. Dudley Howden, restless and fearful, has shot Vanderhyde dead, and is uneasy at the thought of the possible consequences of his rash act. Why, the audience wonder, did Howden commit the murder? They are not left long in suspense. Switching on the lights, Howden moves silently to a corner of the studio—towards the body of Vanderhyde—and explains his motive. Jealousy had arisen between himself and his wife over Vanderhyde. He attempts to leave the scene of the tragedy with the remark: "No one saw me come in; no one will see me go out." He approaches the door and alters the indicator from "Mr. Vanderhyde In" to "Mr. Vanderhyde Out." A letter comes for Vanderhyde from Howden's wife, and Howden discovers that what Vanderhyde had induced him to believe concerning his wife is false. Feeling more at ease, he re-enters the studio, collects his belongings, and again approaches the door. This time he finds it fastened, and, on attempting to leave by the window, he is confronted by Julian Braithwaite, the detective, who for some considerable time had been engaged in endeavouring to effect the arrest of Vanderhyde for forgery. After much hesitation, Howden unfolds the story of his crime—for the woman he loves, his wife, and instead of arresting him, the detective shows sympathy by communicating with Scotland Yard and intimating that he has discovered Vanderhyde, who, rather than be apprehended, had shot himself, thereby diverting all suspicion from Howden. The piece is admirably staged and acted with considerable dramatic effect.

Harry Tate is again in attendance, but this time in "Flying." With his Veri Ot Taterplane he creates endless amusement, which at times is almost convulsive in nature. Another attraction is that very popular and clever comedian, George Formby, who, with his drolleries, quaint sayings, actions, and songs, in the typical Lancashire style, keeps his audience in a ripple of mirth from start to finish. Beth Tate, the American comedienne, scored quite a success in her songs, "In the dear old winter time," "That will never do for me," and "Innocent Bessie Brown." The Sisters Caselli treat the audience to some very clever dancing and high kicking. The Dorrima Trio prove themselves to be vocalists of no mean order, and in their songs, "Sally in our alley," "Give a body," and "The dear little shamrock," were heard to advantage. Specialty dancing is given by Les Andres, while the Harvey Boys are really funny in their comedy and scientific boxing act, "That Was Me." Sados, assisted by a little comedy(ian), is a very clever juggler. There is also Ethel Beach, a comedienne; Will Nosam, vocalist and dancer; and the Euston Bioscope.

KINGSTON EMPIRE.

A capital programme has been drawing good houses to the Kingston Empire this week, chief amongst the items on the programme being the mysterious performances of Linga Singh, the Hindoo sorcerer. Seen from the front, this talented magician's performance almost baffles description, and loud applause greeted the close of a series of wonderful illusions. A dainty turn is that provided by Radie Stuart, comedienne, who sings charmingly "I am the leader of the girls' brigade" and "A pair of stockings."

Some clever playing on the post-horn is given by Godfrey Kneller, who also gives a fine rendering of Tosti's "Good-bye" on a cornet, and has to respond to several encores. A trapeze act by the Javers is also very good, the performance of one of the troupe who executes a number of double somersaults with apparent ease being especially noticeable. Miss Constance Mori wins many friends by her singing of "Just a little bit," and in a Japanese song and dance, gracefully executed. The quaint humour of Rob Gilmore in two songs caused no end of merriment, and in response to the applause he returned and sang "Upon my beat last night," in which the experiences of a policeman are described.

Included in the programme are Egerton and Forbes, comedians, and the Falcons, acrobatic comedians. The selections of the Empire orchestra continue to be not the least interesting contribution to the programme. The "Carnival March," by Mr. Vernon Dare, the chef d'orchestre, is the overture for the week.

THE SURREY.

Prominence in the current bill at the Surrey is given to Miss Victoria Monks, whose attractive powers have been proved by crowded houses at both performances. She is introducing her new scena, called "Liberty Hall," which possesses all the bizarre qualities with which her name is associated. The popular comedienne is seen as a young lady who has to give hospitality to the broker's man. That worthy is invited to make free with the house and brings in several companions to assist him in disposing of the whisky and cigars. Fortunately the young lady receives the money to pay the rent by telegram and the bailiff and his crew are unceremoniously ejected. Miss Monks sings the song with characteristic vivacity and is loudly applauded. Opportunity to exercise her skill is also afforded in "The Vicky glide," which is compared to a "joy ride" and is accompanied by realistic "storm" effects and supplemented by a novel dance. Another favourite entertainer is seen in Miss Jen Latona, who blithely renders to a concertina accompaniment "I'm going home to Dixie." Her songs at the piano are as enjoyable as ever, and in "Keep on swinging me, Charlie," she has a catchy chorus, to which a stentorian voice in the auditorium lends effective assistance.

The recent demand for the "old-style music hall" is in a large degree met by Graham, the "human marionette," whose impersonations on a miniature stage of variety artistes past and present are keenly relished. The music hall of the seventies is faithfully depicted, with the chairman at the table announcing the artistes in his grandiloquent manner and the quaint little waiter toddling about with his tray of glasses. It is quite like old times to renew acquaintance with "stars" long since gone over to the majority. Thus one sees and hears George Leybourne in "Slap bang, here we are again!" and Fred Coyne in a favourite song, each indulging in an acrobatic dance of which the originals were not capable. The later period is shown in the appearance of George Bastow, George Lashwood in "Twilight," and Harry Lauder in one of his most rollicking songs. Mr. Graham manipulates the show artistically and is enthusiastically recalled.

Marvellous feats of strength are accomplished by the Atlas and Vulcana Troupe, who toy with prodigious barbells of ever-increasing weight. Atlas is an undefeated champion athlete, and the Sisters Atlas rejoice in the title of England's champion strong girls, Little Gus having that of world's boy champion. Vulcana demonstrates her claim to be champion lady athlete of the world, and gives a striking exhibition of muscular development. The fun of "The Mumming Birds" is never allowed to flag in the hands of Fred Karno's company, and laughter is incessant during its occupancy of the stage. Orpheus presents his clever speciality, "The Hall of Music," his playing of the posthorn being quite exhilarating; Mr. Gus Harris gets the ear of the house with his chorus songs, and the remainder of the programme consists of Alf Gibson, the quaint comedian; Keen and Waller, eccentrics; Sinclair's Three Diamonds, and Ruffell's Bioscope.

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME.

A capital all-round "bill" is being presented here this week by Mr. H. S. Perfect. The programme opens with an overture, "Pleasure Land," excellently played by Mr. H. Alexander's fine orchestra. Mina Bax, a clever child dancer, gives four specimens of terpsichorean art, namely, a schottische and Dutch, toe, and buck dances, and in each displayed decided skill and finish. The Bros. Erard, acrobatic musical comedians, make music from anything. In addition to violins, which they play in various positions, they extract melody from brooms, shovels, pick-axe, sledge-hammer, &c., at the same time performing smart acrobatic feats.

Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson, the accomplished musical trio, give their delightfully artistic drawing-room entertainment, and were repeatedly recalled. Jenny Johns is a smart comedienne, with a couple of capital songs. Victor Travers is a quaint and eccentric comedian, his song, "I hesitated—and was lost," being very funny, as is also his acrobatic flap-boot dance. The Mezzettis submit a clever and original comedy triple horizontal bar act, and meet with a hearty reception.

Fred Earle, in some new whimsical ditties, creates much amusement. Herbert Darnley's company present the latest laugh compeller, "The King They Couldn't Kill." The company is over forty strong, and includes that capital comedian, Alex. Keith, as The King, Harry Buss as Peter Pipps, and Mrs. Herbert Darnley as the Duchess. The Bioscope shows some new films, making an excellent finale to an attractive entertainment.

CHISWICK EMPIRE.

Quite a delightful feature of the current entertainment at this fine house is to be discovered in the doings of the picturesque Vagabonds, who score tremendously in their tuneful selections, "The rosary" being a gem that is rapturously redemanded.

Mimicry is Rosie Archer's strong point, and the clever little lady charms the audience with her imitations of Connie Ediss, Vesta Tilley, and other popular artistes. In an amazing short space of time the Great Vandinoff produces some beautiful landscapes, his execution being of the lightning order—a chromotrope effect of a revolving star being not the least effective of the rapid artist's efforts. M. Vandinoff is honoured by a special "call." As a tambourinist J. P. Carroll contrives to get some wonderful effects out of his not too particularly musical instrument, and his efforts win the appreciation of the audience. "A night attack" is especially well done, while a pugilistic encounter is demonstrated with life-like fidelity. Chanti's fame as a quick-change artiste is well known, and again he dances himself into popularity with quick changes, which range from China to Heidelberg, and thence to sunny Spain, with an excruciatingly funny burlesque bull-fight. Chanti is distinctly a good turn.

With a cosmopolitan reputation, Chung Ling Soo proves a host in himself. He has really the lion's share of this week's programme, and it would be difficult to ask for a more marvellous performance. A celebrated American humorist has told of the tricks of one almond-eyed Oriental, but his feats pale before those of Chung Ling Soo. Dividing his show into three distinct chapters, Ling begins with his marvellous manipulative willow pattern plate. In Part II. the magician gets to work in real earnest, demonstrating with apparent ease how to sleep in space. Ling next illustrates a living target, and further mystifies the audience with a distinctly pretty delusion, "The Birth of the Pearl." Wonder succeeds on wonder after this, and we get the Crystal Lamp, the Magic Cauldron. In this the astute juggler has the invaluable aid of dainty Miss Susie Seen. Thunders of applause greet the marvels produced with such extraordinary effect, and it may be safely assumed that the great magician richly merits the unique reputation he has deservedly won as an exponent of the occult.

Little Ganty, a comedian of sterling worth, discourses on the nefarious ways of tipsters, and adds to the merriment as a Boy Scout with unmanageable "galla gaskins." Mr. Desmond Young, the acting-manager in front of the house, is the embodiment of courtesy.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.

A pretty little spectacular scena, entitled "Shepherdland," was produced last Monday at this delightful hall in the North of London by that popular composer, Mr. Max Erard. The setting is extremely elaborate and decidedly tasteful; the scene—A Pretty Spot in the Tyrol—being carefully realised. Mr. Erard has got together a most capable company, the names of which were unfortunately omitted from the programme, so that we are unable to speak of them individually by name. The singing and yodelling of the quartette was particularly good, as also was the comedian who sang "Topsy-turvy town." The duet, given by the two old men characters, viz., "When we were young," was well receievd, and the comedian with the goat caused much humour. When the item is in thorough working order there is no reason why it should not get well booked.

A capital turn is provided by Charles Emerald and Maud Dupre, in their tit-bit, "A Hot Scotch," the trifle enabling the pair to display their versatility, which is abnormal for this style of skit. The couple work splendidly together, their efforts being well rewarded with an abundance of applause. The old favourite, G. H. Chirgwin, still retains his popularity, which is doubtless due to his great personality. The great George was in particularly good gagging form on the evening of our visit, and likewise in voice, his singing of "My fiddle" being most enjoyable. Hinton and Wootton play football on cycles, a really clever act, the hard work throughout being received with rounds of applause.

Miss Josephine Langley, the Lancashire double-voiced ventriloquist, is a gifted young lady, her business with the soldier boy dummy being very smart. The singing of the song, "Somewhere," is done quite well, and we venture to suggest that a newer song would be even more appreciated. Miss Lea Manti is an attractive and exceedingly good siffleuse; and Mr. Godfrey James, the singing collier, wins much applause for his rendering of "My love" and "In my heart." Mr. Harold Montague, in "Pianologues," introduces a bright little show, consisting of a well-written song, "I think we ought to buy it for the nation," and the relating of several smart little stories. Mr. Cliff Berzac's American equestrian sketch, "The Riding Academy," displays skill and plenty of comedy, the many incidents causing much fun.

"A NIGHT WITH ARSENE LUPIN."

Sketch by Maurice Leblanc, Produced at London Pavilion, Monday, Feb. 3.

Arsène Lupin .....Mr. Henri De Vries
Dumont ..... Mr. Alfred Fisher
Marescot ..... Mr. Miles Hodgson
An Accomplice ..... Mr. Derek Powell
A Police Inspector ..... Mr. George Restall
Suzanne ..... Miss Helen Cunningham

These brainy burglars are always interesting on the stage, and our sympathy with their adventurous thefts is—unfortunately for the ethics of morality—complete. In the sketch produced on Monday at the London Pavilion, Maurice Leblanc gives the famous Parisian the romantic tinge, the chivalrous air, that are more or less the necessities of such a stage character. Arsène's latest adventure is in a studio belonging to Dumont, a sculptor, and concerns the theft of a diamond necklace—necklaces, by the way, have a long stage history. The jewels had belonged to a lady of *la haute noblesse*, and the sculptor, judging from the hints he drops to his charming daughter, is capable of "chiselling" in more ways than one. After securing bolts and locks, Dumont and mademoiselle retire for the night. Arsène Lupin's accomplice descends through the skylight by means of a rope into the darkened studio and lets in the celebrated arch-criminal in the dress of an Apache. Marescot, a famous detective, gets wind of Arsène's scheme, and arrives at the studio. Arsène, getting behind a screen, disguises himself as an old Russian, who acts as model, thus baffling the 'tec. But suspicion again becoming roused, the protean Arsène takes the place of a Chinese figure. At length Marescot departs, and, left alone in the studio, Arsène arouses Mlle. Dumont, and quieting her suspicions by a plausible tale and a little flattery, gets the key of the door leading to the back staircase used by models. Previously he has rung up one of the chiefs of his gang to surround the house with a number of his myrmidons. When, therefore, he is arrested later and handcuffed, the hired gang, in gendarme uniforms, loosen the "darbies," and he claps them on Marescot. Dumont, in the meanwhile, has been gagged and bound, and the diamonds transferred from his pocket to Lupin's. It should be explained that the chivalrous thief had returned the gems on the condition that he should be allowed to go free.

Possibly the craft and subtlety of Arsène would not be so conspicuous were it not for the weakness and stupidity of those on the side of the law. The chief merit of the sketch is that Mr. Henri de Vries has in the chief part a great opportunity for some excellent acting. In various disguises the Dutch artist holds the piece together very finely, and captures the absorbed attention of the house. Miss Helen Cuningham, a very pretty young actress, whom we do not remember to have seen before, has great charm, and is gifted with a most sympathetic voice. Though her part is not a very important one, she plays it with real tenderness and insight. With such grace and high intelligence Miss Cuningham should speedily gain a position in the profession of her choice. Mr. Alfred Fisher as the sculptor Dumont, and Mr. Miles Hodgson as the detective complete a capital cast, and of the success of "A Night with Arsène Lupin" there can be no question.

Mr. Jan Rudenyi, strange to say, is also presenting a burglar sketch, entitled "Capita," in which a cracksman, with benevolent intentions to the poor, and a nice taste in violin playing, wins the sympathy of the wife of a celebrated detective by playing a composition of her brother's on his favourite Strad. We need hardly add that the sketch is written for the purpose of introducing fiddle solos, that are extremely well played by Mr. Rudenyi. Miss Hilda Stewart looks extremely handsome as the detective's wife.

"Maison Décolletée" improves on a second acquaintance, and now provides a bright streak of musical comedy in the earlier part of the bill. Mr. Charles Danvers has worked up the part of the Prascovian noble into a broadly humorous character sketch; and dainty Miss Nan Stuart does complete justice to a rather trying solo. The choruses, too, go more brightly. Mr. Frank Glenister's variety entertainment is enriched by the contributions of George Formby, the Lancashire lad, the rag-time diversions of the Two Bobs, the fine dancing of Les Andrés, the interesting and graceful dancing scena of the Crisps, the subtle charm of the American comedy of Miss Beth Tate, the jaunty soldier impersonation of Miss Louie Tracey, the acrobatic farce of the Lyons Trio, Grant and Grant, the Four Amaranths, Kenna Brothers, and Dutch Daly.

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"SCHEHERAZADE" REVIVED.

A BEAUTIFUL COLISEUM PRODUCTION.

"Scheherazade" as a ballet has such a dramatic story, and its production is so complete and artistic at the Coliseum that it once more proved extremely welcome to a packed house on Monday, when M. Theodore Kosloff, that fine dancer and mime, repeated his triumph, which was shared to the full by his accomplished wife (Mlle. Baldina). Scheherazade, the beautiful houri of the grim Sultan Schachriar, has been his prisoner of war, and saves her neck by the romance and charm of her stories, which she tells for 1,001 nights. Hitherto her lord had made short work of each of his wives by their decapitation on the morrow of the bridal. The warlike instincts of his highness are eventually aroused by his ally, Abdurachman, and he goes to the wars. During his absence the ladies of the harem make friends with the captives, and the Sultan surprises them in their revels. All are put to the sword except Scheherazade, who stabs herself and falls dead at the Sultan's feet. Mlle. Baldina in the title-rôle mimes with a warmth and passion that are as Oriental as her languorous dancing; and Kosloff's love-making and dancing are fine examples of the choreographic art.

Two extra items added to the already strong bill at the Camberwell Palace this week are Dean and Dale, a couple of comedians who create much laughter in their conversation with an imaginary female, and the American Ragtimers. The combination, which includes seven gentlemen and one lady, without a doubt keep the house fully alive during the whole of their clever performance. They have some tuneful numbers, and score heavily all through.

EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES.

A special meeting of the L.C.C. Public Control Committee was held on Friday of last week at the County Hall, Spring-gardens, for the purpose of licensing employment agencies. Mr. T. C. E. Goff, vice-chairman of the Committee, presided.

"A BIRD OF PASSAGE."

The first application that came before the Committee was that of Mr. Henry Leslie Burden, theatrical and variety agent, of 27, Harrow-road. A special report as to this agency (known as Leslie's Agency) was submitted to the Committee on Nov. 22 last.

Mr. Oller, the superintendent of the Public Control Department, stated that though the applicant had had for a considerable time offices at 27, Harrow-road, the L.C.C. inspector had never been able to find him there, and there was no evidence that business had actually been conducted there. Perhaps, however, Mr. Burden would be able to satisfy the Committee on this point.

The applicant stated that it was customary for him to be away three months every year on business. When in town he was at his office every day.

The Chairman: But the Inspector says you are never to be found there.

Applicant: I have seen him there three or four times.

The Chairman: Well, you seem to be a bird of passage.

Mr. Oller asked the Committee to adjourn the case to give Mr. Burden an opportunity of meeting the Council's inspector, and satisfying him in reference to the points which had been raised.

It was agreed that the case should be further adjourned for this suggestion to be carried out.

COMPLAINTS AGAINST AN AGENT.

Mr. Edward Platt, concert and variety agent, of 5 and 6, Coventry-street, applied for the renewal of his licence. The application, which was not reached at the sitting of the Committee held on Dec. 6 last, was opposed in consequence of certain representations having been made to the Public Control Department of the L.C.C.

Miss Janet Turner was the first witness. She stated that she called at the office of the Public Control Department and made representations with regard to Mr. Platt, and signed the statement on Aug. 20 last. She met him first in March last and again in June or July. She was a member of the ballet troupe then engaged at the Coliseum, and also assisted in the wardrobe department. He asked her how much she was earning, and she told him 35s. a week. He said he could find her an engagement worth £2 a week. She went to the address in Coventry-street which he gave her about six o'clock one evening. She found there a lady typist, who said that Mr. Platt was not in. She waited until he arrived, and in the meantime the lady typist opened a drawer and showed her some photographs. When Mr. Platt arrived he took her into another room, stating that he had a form for her to sign. After asking her to come to supper with him at an hotel in Wardour-street—an invitation she refused—he behaved improperly to her, and she pushed him away. She had seen him at a dress rehearsal at the Coliseum, and she complained to Mr. Crocker, the stage-manager at that house, who said he would see Mr. Platt.

The witness was cross-examined by Mr. Trytell the counsel, who appeared in support of the application. She said that after the assault she went straight to the Coliseum, sat down in one of the dressing-rooms and cried. She did not complain to the police because she was too much upset. She had not frequented Coventry-street, and had never accosted any men. She had not been to Mr. Platt's office since the alleged assault.

Mr. Henry Crocker, stage-manager at the Coliseum, deposed that Miss Turner told him she had been insulted by Mr. Platt. He also received complaints from two other girls engaged at the Coliseum, and forbade Mr. Platt's admission at the stage entrance. Mr. Platt denied that he had insulted Miss Turner.

In cross-examination the witness stated that a Miss Whitaker had complained of Mr. Platt; she said that he was objectionable in his manner. Miss Turner had always been well behaved during the time she had been at the Coliseum. He believed she was living with a sister at Poplar. Evidence was then given in reference to another complaint against Mr. Platt.

Madame M. A. Victor, a licensed employment agent, said she was also a teacher of dancing. She had a troupe of girls, known as the Black Cats. They were booked to appear at Stockholm in July, 1912. Before that date Mr. Platt approached her, and after some discussion she agreed to let him book them, but she told him she did not want them to go to any place of entertainment that was not thoroughly respectable. Subsequently, she took exception to an engagement at a place in Vienna known as the Casino de Paris. The matron of the troupe wrote to her about the place, whereupon she wrote Mr. Platt a strong letter. His reply was to the effect that it was a mistake, and that he did not know anything about the place in question.

Mr. Johnson, the Council's inspector under the Employment Agencies Act, was next called. He said that in August last three members of Madame Victor's troupe signed a statement of the complaint they had to make. They were booked to appear at the Casino de Paris in Vienna, and on arriving there they found that the performance did not begin until eleven o'clock at night, and did not terminate until four or five the next morning. The place was not a music hall, there was no stage, the performance being given on the floor of the hall. At its conclusion they had to sit in their stage costume at tables, they were not to refuse drinks and cigarettes offered them by male members of the audience.

A Member of the Committee: We all know what goes on in these places abroad.

Mr. Johnson said he had examined Mr. Platt's contract book and found an entry of the booking of the Black Cats troupe for the Casino de Paris. He at first denied having booked the troupe, but afterwards admitted having done so.

The lady who was in charge of the troupe gave corroborative evidence with regard to what happened at Vienna. She said that some of the girls began to cry. The manager produced the contract, which had on it the name of Mr. Platt. The troupe consisted of decent-class girls, and she wrote a letter of complaint to Madame Victor. The girls were supposed to drink with the visitors and to listen to all they had to say. There were a good many people there who spoke English.

In answer to Mr. Simmons the witness said that a gentleman kindly engaged rooms for the troupe at an hotel in Vienna and paid their fares when they left. Without his help she did not know what they would have done.

Mr. Edward Platt was then called. He said he was a Russian subject, but had lived in this country fourteen years. He had carried on business as an agent in Coventry-street since July last, and prior to that in Wardour-street. He had been an agent about seven years, and had been twice licensed under the new Act. He had heard Miss Turner's evidence in reference to the alleged improper behaviour. It was false. His sister had had charge of the office for two years. Miss Turner came there and saw his sister. She called three times, and was turned out on the last occasion. There were other offices in the building. He never saw Miss Turner at all. As she was insulting to his sister she was turned out. He had nothing to do with the engagement of the Black Cats troupe at Vienna. He had never booked anybody at the place in question. His office was divided into two rooms by a partition. Having had a quarrel with the manager he was prevented from entering the Coliseum without payment.

Miss Sonia Platt, applicant's sister, said she was manager of his office in Coventry-street. Miss Turner called three times, but her brother only saw her once, and that was not on the last occasion. It was impossible without her knowledge for such a thing to have happened as that described by Miss Turner in her evidence.

In reply to the Chairman witness said that Miss Turner was, the last time she called, turned out of the office by the liftman.

Alfred Pickett, the liftman, stated that Mr. Platt gave him orders to keep Miss Turner out of the building. He remembered Miss Platt ringing the bell for him to order Miss Turner out of the office, but when he got there she had gone.

Mr. Chas. Norman said he had known Mr. Platt between seven and eight years, and had sent lady artistes to him as agent. He had not heard from any of them a word of complaint.

Mr. Simmons said there was no evidence that Miss Turner had accosted men as alleged, and he thought that applicant's counsel should withdraw the imputations that had been made.

Mr. Trytell said he unreservedly withdrew any aspersions cast upon Miss Turner's character.

The stage-door keeper at the Coliseum said that Mr. Platt was refused admission to the stage because he was a general nuisance. Several of the girls complained of the way he spoke to them, and one said he was "a rotter."

Mr. Trytell addressed the Committee on behalf of the applicant, and they retired. On their return the Chairman announced that they had considered the case, and had determined not to grant the renewal of the licence.

In reply to Mr. Trytell the Chairman said that notice of appeal against the decision could be given within a certain time.

THE OLD-TIME MUSIC HALL.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERA."

SIR,—Music halls have made vast strides since the days of Sam Cowell, Bill Randall, and others. At that time there was scarcely any stage, merely a raised platform with looking-glass at the back, and a small band. These conditions prevailed until that pioneer of music hall reform, Mr. J. L. Graydon, at the Middlesex (the Mogul), introduced scenery, footlights, and entirely brought about a prosperous state of affairs at that people's hall. Now we have flunkeys who haunt the glittering entrances of to-day's music halls, with their magnificent auditoriums and their highly respectable restrictions. The music hall of the past was a simple homely place—cosy and comfortable. You sat at tables and drank out of bright pewter pots. The performers did not rush on for a six-minute turn, neither were they announced by the flicker of an electric number dial. Their names were called out by the chairman in a manner that approached solemnity. We used to applaud with our pint pots and by the stamping of our feet, and woe be to the singer who failed to amuse the company.

There were great artistes in those days. When Charles Godfrey sang "On the bridge at midnight" he brought tears to the eyes of nearly all the females in the audience, and in his next song he would make the tears run down their cheeks with laughing. Is there any artiste on the music hall boards to-day who can do this? Where is the artiste of to-day who can emulate poor George Leybourne, who would walk upon the stage, parley with the gallery boys, and send the whole house in a roar of laughter. It is the fashion of to-day to speak of the "vulgar days of 'Champagne Charlie,'" the song immortalised by Leybourne, but the melody composed forty years ago is sung even to-day. In my opinion we shall never have another Charles Godfrey or George Leybourne.

As I write these lines I have before me the programme of the Middlesex Music Hall of Sept. 5, 1881, in which appears the name of Will Bint, the gentleman to whom we are indebted for his valuable opinion on the old-time music hall. In my humble opinion the artistes of by-gone days gave us much more pleasure than those of the present day.

In conclusion, I may mention an incident that took place a few weeks since in a London music hall. Seated in the stalls were two young ladies. Fred Karno's troupe was performing, and one of the young ladies laughed very loudly. Instantly an attendant in a brilliant uniform called out, "Silence, there!" "Good gracious!" replied the young lady, "can't we laugh?" "Yes," said the attendant, "but not so loud." In the old days the more laughter the more enjoyment. I hope Mr. Bint will succeed in getting someone to establish a hall run on the old lines. That well-known and old-established hall, the Bedford, Camden Town, is as near an approach to the old style, free from the restrictions I have mentioned. There, at popular prices, you can see a really good entertainment, it being one of the oldest music halls in London.—I am, yours faithfully,

J. C. BARNETT.

6, Hogarth Hill, Hampstead Suburb,
Feb. 1.

Miss Nancy Blackwood writes:—"I see by your issue of Feb. 1 that my name is advertised in the 'Variety Gossip' as appearing at the Tivoli on Feb. 10 in the sketch 'The Lodgers.' Will you please note that I am *not* appearing at the Tivoli in this sketch? I consented to play the part for one month to oblige Mr. Macdonald, but the engagement finished three weeks ago at Newcastle-on-Tyne."

Mr. Thornburn, the proprietor of the Lichfield Palladium, may be cordially congratulated on the success he is achieving. The cinema entertainment is first-rate, added to which the varieties are very attractive. The arrangements of the Palladium are so cosy and comfortable that the proprietor may regard himself as having created in the cathedral city quite an entertainment habit.

LADIES' GUILD BALL.

AN OVERWHELMING ATTENDANCE.

The brilliance of the first annual Fancy Dress Ball and Supper given by the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, was quite eclipsed by the second, which took place at the Trocadero Restaurant on Sunday evening, when over 300 guests were present. Indeed, so rapidly were the tickets disposed of that the sale had to be stopped in the middle of last week. Nevertheless, the number present on Sunday so far exceeded the accommodation of the Empire Room, where it was originally intended to assemble for supper, that the management was obliged to transfer that function to the public hall of the restaurant.

Miss Irene Rose, the president of the Guild, received the visitors in the ballroom, and among them were many distinguished representatives of the profession. Miss Marie Lloyd, who had promised to distribute the prizes, looked handsome in a pale pink dress of crêpe de chine with pearl-embroidery and touches of black velvet. She wore a beautiful pearl necklet and a magnificent diamond lover's knot and a diamond tiara with a white osprey in her hair. King Rat Charley Austin represented the Grand Order, and Mr. Harry Tate, a past King Rat, was also there with Mrs. Tate. The Beneficent Order of Terriers was represented by Mr. Arthur Were, completely disguised as a Pirate King of the "twopence coloured" variety; and Mr. C. Douglas Stuart represented the Music Hall Artistes' Railway Association. Mr. Charles Coborn was also there with Mrs. Coborn (vice-president), who figured in the flowing robes of a Grecian lady; and others prominent were the managers of the Syndicate Halls, Mr. Frank Glenister, Mr. Joseph Wilson, and Mr. Blyth Pratt, who were to act as judges. The executive was strongly represented and included Mrs. Herbert Shelley (vice-president), Miss Lottie Albert (hon. treasurer), Miss Violet Folland, Mrs. Verson Cowper, Mrs. Arthur Were, Mrs. Alva, Mrs. Gintaro, Mrs. Kasrac, Miss Irma Lorraine, Miss Mabel Mavis, Miss Minnie Letta, Mrs. Perla Adams, Miss Anna Alden, Mrs. Charles Austin, Miss Olga Tcharna, and Miss Melinda May.

PRIZE COSTUMES.

Much ingenuity was displayed in the designing of the various dresses. Particular attention was attracted to that worn by Miss Violet Folland, who won the prize for the most original costume, with "The Pulse of the World." The dress suggested the dissemination of news by cable, telephone, and tape-machine, each of those methods of communication being represented running through land and ocean, the former illustrated by pretty landscapes, and the latter by seaweed and pearls illuminated by electric light. A "staff of Liberty," carried by the wearer, completed the costume, which was designed by Mr. F. Millar and carried out by Messrs. H. and M. Rayne. The prize was £5 worth of furniture presented by the Hackney Furnishing Company. Another prize (a lady's dress basket), for the most original dress, went to Miss Trixie Woolf, for "Rag-time," in which the craze of the hour was recalled in a cleverly designed costume. The award for the most effective lady's costume was won by Miss Ettie Osborn, who represented "Billiards"; and that for the most comic lady's costume by Miss Violet Beatrice, a member of Mr. Fred Baugh's "Goody Two Shoes" company, who masqueraded as an Italian organ-grinder, with organ and monkey complete. Another comic winner was the "Peacock" of Miss Clive, who looked charming in her borrowed plumes. The second prize for the most effective costume went to Miss Grace Winifred Dalton, who is understudying the principal boy in "Dick Whittington" at the Prince's, Bristol, and came in that character to support Mr. Jack Hurst, who gambolled as untiringly as ever as the cat. Mr. Hurst reaped the reward of his labours by securing first prize for the most comic costume. The prize for the most original costume went to Mr. Arthur Berman for a startling suit depicting "Rag-time," covered with the titles of the popular melodies of the day. Mr. Douglas Stuart, clad in a white sheet, and clasping in his arms an empty whisky bottle, figured as "A Departed Spirit," and captured first prize for the most effective costume—a silver cigarette case given by La Belle Alva. A large box of cigarettes was secured by Mr. Arthur Were for his formidable Pirate King, the second most effective dress; Mr. Fred Maple won the prize for the second most original dress as a "Janitor"; and Little Ganty carried off second "comic" prize as a jockey who had been "warned off."

Among the gay throng were other most effective costumes. Mr. James Carew made a picturesque Hollander. Mr. Scott-Barrie, from the Prince's pantomime, capered continuously as a harlequin; Mr. Vernon Cowper essayed the rôle of that familiar figure in the Strand who advertises the Turkish baths; and Mrs. Vernon Cowper was got up realistically as "A salad." Miss Edna Baugh, who won the "surprise prize," was accompanied by a realistic little Indian squaw, in the person of Miss Dorothy Edelsten, and a lady jockey and a child in ballet skirts were conspicuous in the crowd. La Belle Alva looked handsome as Bacchante, Goddess of Wine; Miss Irma Lorraine was a superb Russian Princess; royal dignity was also assumed by Mrs. Were as a Persian princess; Mrs. Rogers was a charming Gainsborough Girl; Mrs. Shelley was arrayed in a splendid dress of the seventeenth century; and Mr. Darnal was a rather mild-looking Mephistopheles with spectacles.

Miss Marie Lloyd was presented by the Guild at the presentation of prizes with a lovely shower bouquet of pink carnations and lilies of the valley. She carried out her task to everyone's satisfaction, having a humorous comment for every award. A vote of thanks to Miss Lloyd was proposed by Mr. Wilson, and seconded by Mr. Blyth Pratt, and heartily accorded.

SPEECHES AT SUPPER.

The loyal toast was proposed by the President, who later on gave "Our Patrons." She said she was delighted to propose the health of patrons, both present and absent. She thanked them for all they had done for the Guild, and wished them good health, jolly good luck, and plenty of money with which to continue their good work.

The toast was acknowledged by Mr. Ginnett.

KINDRED SOCIETIES.

Mrs Charles Coborn proposed the toast of "The Kindred Societies," and warmly acknowledged the help given to the Guild by the M.H.A.R.A, the Variety Artistes' Federation, the Grand Order of Water Rats, and the Beneficent Order of Terriers.

Mr. Charles Austin, who was heartily received, responded for the Water Rats, and said that in any effort made by the Ladies' Guild, they would be certain of the support of his brother artistes, and the Order would do all they could to further the grand cause. It seemed to him, and in the eyes of the world, that a body of women getting together like the Ladies' Guild, was of more use than to go pouring liquids into letter-boxes. (Laughter and cheers.) If Suffragettes would only take example by the Guild and utilise their money, their ability, and their brains in the cause of charity, it would be a lot better for the world. The Grand Order of Water Rats appreciated the Guild's good work, and would do all in their power to help them in their glorious cause.

"CHAMPION TOUCHERS."

Mr. Arthur Were replied for the Beneficent Order of Terriers, and said: Ma Belle President, —The Terriers cannot praise too highly the noble little band of ladies who work unceasingly, week after week, to alleviate the sufferings of the women and children who are in penury and want. You ladies have deservedly earned the title of being the champion "touchers" of the profession; it is one to be proud of, and we poor, fragile mortals—men—acknowledge your superiority in this respect. It is no easy task nowadays to "tell the tale" successfully, but the energy of your endeavours, and the mobility of your purpose, enables your generous-hearted treasurer, Miss Lottie Albert, the lady bountiful of the Guild, to review the bank balance with more satisfaction that Lloyd George regards the refreshing fruit of the Insurance Act. (Laughter.) Your capable organisation of the Guild matinée, ball, and Tag-day is deserving of the highest commendation, and a credit to your ability and zeal, for you have successfully "touched" the general public.

THE ORDER OF THE WHITE ROSE.

The time and labour you devote to the arduous task of distributing your bounty, however wearisome to your loyal and energetic secretary, Miss Melinda May sets an example to the variety world. Perhaps, if you were to start the Order of the White Rose, as a compliment to your charming president, Miss Irene Rose, and invite every lady artiste in the profession and others interested in same, to become a member at a nominal subscription of one shilling a year, with a small white rose as a badge, it might create a greater interest in the work of the Guild and also prove beneficial to the funds. (Cheers.)

Mr. Chas. Coborn also responded to the toast, and congratulated the president of the Ladies' Guild upon the magnificent success of that evening. He added that the Variety Artistes' Federation had recently proposed a movement whereby they could make an increased collection, and he assured them when the time came that their coffers were as full as they wished them to be, they would not forget the Ladies' Guild.

THE VISITORS.

Miss Lottie Albert proposed the toast of "The Visitors," may of whom, she said, had subscribed most handsomely to their ball fund. No doubt the ladies and gentlemen who were here last year remembered Mr. Blyth Pratt's able speech, in which he urged that the public should be induced to help support the music hall charities. His words made a deep impression in her mind, and as a result she had succeeded in persuading over 100 of her non-professional friends to join them there that night. She thanked them very much and hoped they would have a right royal time.

The response was made by Mr. Blyth-Pratt, who said he desired to thank Miss Rose and the Ladies' Guild for their kindness during the year. He had given a good number of matinées for various objects, and the members of the Guild had always come along in answer to his request to sell programmes, and did so with marked success. They sent some charming young ladies, who wheedled money out of the people by all sorts of artifices, of which men were not capable, and were responsible in that way for a great increase in the takings.

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

The toast of "The President" was proposed by Mr. Osborn, and in reply Miss Rose said that as that was the first time she had taken the chair since her re-election as president, she wished to thank the committee for kindly placing her in that position. She also thanked Miss May, Miss Albert, and the executive for the hard work they had put into the organisation of the ball, which she thought they must own was a success. Miss Albert had sold 110 tickets, which she thought was a bit of a record. She also desired to thank the prize givers, Messrs. H. and M. Rayne, the Abdulla Cigarette Company, the Hackney Furnishing Company, Miss Albert, Mrs. Shelley, Miss Alva, Miss May, and Miss Folland. Their best thanks were due to Miss Marie Lloyd, who had a lot of her own work to attend to, but managed to spare a little time for the poorer members of their profession. (Cheers.) She also expressed her thanks to Messrs. Blyth-Pratt, Glenister, and Wilson for again consenting to act as judges; to Mr. Leon Bassett for acting as musical director; to Mr. Arthur Gallimore for officiating as toastmaster; to Mr. Douglas Stuart, who was always ready to do all in his power to forward their good work; and to other ladies and gentlemen who rendered willing assistance. With regard to the future, Miss Rose said that the committee had decided to raise the grants to what they considered sufficient food for people to live on. That fancy-dress ball was a suggestion of the Sisters Macarte, and they found that there was so much money to be made out of it for their less fortunate brothers and sisters that they decided to repeat the occasion. Their reception last year had also proved successful. There were a number of people not connected with the profession who were greatly interested in the Guild, and the reception gave them an opportunity to meet together. Those who did not attend sent along donations, and they were thus able to pay expenses, and in all probability they would have another this year. She hoped also the Children's Outing would be an annual affair. Last year they took 75 children to Brinsworth in brakes, and they had a nice day in the country, though some of them could do with a week. They indulged the hope that in years to come they would be able to take the more delicate ones away for a holiday. The committee had increased by 21, making a total of 61. The Guild was six years old, and it had taken that time to gather 61 committee members. There must be many more ladies in their business who could join the executive if only they realised what a great amount of misery they tried to alleviate. The members of the committee, she reminded her hearers, got nothing out of it. Some people had the impression that the officers received a salary, but that was not so. Even if they went railway journeys to sell tickets they paid their fares themselves. The fact that they were unable to work for the Guild need not stop them joining; they had a number of ladies whom they never saw, but they had no difficulty in getting their subscriptions. She was credited with having an awful lot to say for her size, but no words of hers could be too many in support of a charity which had become an absolute necessity to their profession.

In addition to those to whom reference has been made above, among the large number present were Mr. Nelson Francis, Miss Maudie Francis, Mr. and Mrs. William Payne, Mr. and Mrs. Will Oliver, Mr. Fred Baugh, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Wakefield (the latter in a pretty shepherdess costume), Dr. Fisher, Miss Isa Wise, Miss "Midgie" Johnson, Dr. Marks, Miss Hasted, Mr. and Mrs. Ginnett, Miss Carrie Laurie, Mr. Tom Holmes, the Bentleys, Mrs. Sly and party, Miss Rose Bancroft and party, Mr. and Mrs. Barney Hyams, Miss Minnie Mace, Mr. Wm. Berol, Norman Leonard Trio, Miss May Erne, Mr. E. Chester, and Mr. Clyde Cook.

MARTIN ADESON'S BENEFIT.

The popularity of the Baroness in the Gaiety pantomime, "Cinderella," as represented by Mr. Martin Adeson, was demonstrated on the night of the 31st ult., when a large audience assembled for the benefit performance of the genial comedian who has been responsible for much of the fun of the production. In addition to the ordinary performance there were numerous attractive items by members of the companies appearing in other theatres in the city, including Mr. Jimmy Law, of "The Strolling Players" appearing at the Empire, who sang one of his inimitable Irish songs; Mr. Leo Dryden, from the Tivoli (by kind permission of Mr. Chas. M. Jones), in one of his song playlets; Miss Effie Mann, of "The Dollar Princess" Co., and Ray and Zack, the juvenile wonders from the Queen's Theatre pantomime. Miss Barbara Babington, besides singing her usual numbers as the Prince, obliged with some highly appreciated extras. Miss Katie Marsh was also to the front. Martin Adeson himself, with the assistance of Reginald Switz, appeared in a screaming burlesque, "Lord Banger's Circus." Mlle. Britta delighted in some new dances, and Mr. Reginald Switz sang a new chorus song. Altogether the "benefit" was a huge success.

The Town Council of Hythe desires to let on lease for a term of twenty-one years, at a rent of £12 10s. per annum, a plot of land close to the sea for the erection of a building for public entertainments. The land abuts on South-road, Hythe, and has a frontage thereto of 60ft., with a depth of 95ft. Applications, endorsed "Land for Public Entertainments," must be posted to Mr. Bernard Drake, Town Clerk, Hythe, Kent.

The Lyrical Costume Concert Party gave an excellent show at the Lecture Hall, Westbourne Park Chapel, Paddington, on Monday, the 3rd inst., before a large and appreciative audience. Items which found special favour were "Suzanne," "Swank," and a Russian quartette, all of which were ably rendered by the party. Mr. Alf. Wright's fine baritone voice was heard to advantage in "Bashful Tom" and the "Floral dance." Mr. Leslie Franks gave a clever sketch at the piano, and sang a burlesque ballad in good style. Mr. William Ewart made quite a hit with Harry Lauder's latest song, "She's the lass for me," and gained further applause for his duets, "Cowboy Joe" and "Eileen O'Shea," with Miss Ethelle Piercy, who got a warm welcome for her songs, "Down Vauxhall way" and "Beautiful doll." Miss Ivy Hancock sang "The convent bell" in good style, and accompanied well throughout. Mr. Billy Archer is a natural humorist, and caused much amusement throughout the evening with his funny jokes and songs.

"THE RIB-NOSED BABOON."

Farcical Sketch, by W. C. McKibbin, Presented by Lew Lake and Co. at Islington Empire on Monday, Feb. 3.

Maharajah of Marmaladia	Mr. Harry Roberts
Pompos	Mr. Harry Lavers
Alardi	Mr. Ernest Webb
Kartan	Mr. Harry Morris
The Baboon	Mr. Richard Lomas
Conchita	Miss Maggie Allwood
Abe	Mr. Charley Seguin
Jerry	Mr. Bob Morris
Nobbler	Mr. Lew Lake

Lew Lake and his company are introducing to London the above farcical sketch. This time, the three popular characters are found in circumstances not less humorous than those which have helped to make them so popular. Mr. W. C. McKibbin, the author, has located his playlet in India. The three characters arrive in a disreputable condition, very hungry, and somewhat nervous about their surroundings. Nobbler eventually goes after a rabbit, and the other two discover on a tree a notice calling attention to the fact that the rib-nosed baboon is again in the neighbourhood, and offering a reward of two thousand rupees to the person who slays it, to be paid on production of the head.

Immediately afterwards the baboon appears, and the two men make an unceremonious exit. Nobbler enters, and also reads the notice, and shortly afterwards is set about by the ape, and after a struggle he secures the winning advantage by throwing some snuff in its face, catching it with a rope, and eventually shooting it. The next scene is a bazaar. Here Abe and Jerry find Nobbler fast asleep, and finding that he has the head of the ape in a bag, purloin it, and start off to reach the Maharajah and claim the reward. Nobbler wakes, finds out that they have gone off with the head, and follows.

Eventually Abe and Jerry reach the Palace, and are examined separately by the Prince, who makes each undergo two tests as to their courage, the second of which is to fight his own baboon. Both fail, and are put into a cage. Nobbler then arrives, undergoes the two tests successfully, beating the second ape in the same way that he did the first, and claims both the reward and the lives of his undeserving pals.

The three principal characters were all warmly welcomed, and Messrs. Seguin, Bob Morris, and Lew Lake himself worked very hard to keep the fun going; Harry Roberts was a dignified Maharajah; and Harry Lavers was quite efficient as Pompos. The other smaller parts were all in good hands, and a large, well dressed, and capitally trained stage crowd aided the general effect. The incidental music by T. W. Thurban is effective, and special commendation is called for by the elaborate scenery which has been supplied by Lew Lake's Studios. The show provoked plenty of hearty laughter, and Lew Lake himself received quite an ovation at the close. The costumes were admirably well supplied by the famous firm of John Hyman, and added greatly to the success of the production, which should have a long and prosperous career.

LICENSING APPEAL: TRUEMAN v. L.C.C.

Miss Ethel Dancy writes:—"I should be very much obliged if you would be good enough to afford me the opportunity, through the columns of your paper, to correct the reports recently appearing in the Press regarding my evidence in the above case. The reports in question appear to indicate that my contract with the appellant was for the purpose of voice production, whereas this question was of altogether secondary importance, my voice having been trained at the Victoria College of Music, and the Guildhall School of Music, and professional engagements extending over four years, having been performed prior to the signing of the contract in question."

That irresistible character comedienne and eccentric dancer, Belle Mora, introducing English, ragtime, and Scotch comedy songs, who recently made an instantaneous success at the London Opera House, and was immediately booked at all the big tours, sails for South Africa on Feb. 22.

Professor Philip Saginor, F.R.R.A.M., Mr. Fred Baugh's musical director at the Foresters', has written a new play dealing with the Jewish massacres and persecutions, entitled "In the Secret Service of the Czar." The big speciality in this is the appearance in a palace scene of Mr. Saginor's British Burlesque Band.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

UNIFORMS FOR INDIA PAST AND PRESENT

AS SUPPLIED BY

JOHN HYMAN,

29, LEICESTER SQUARE, W.C.,

CAN BE SEEN at PRINCES THEATRE in the Magnificent Spectacle

THE INDIAN MUTINY;

Also in LEW LAKE'S MILITARY Production

THE RIB-NOSED BABOON,

AT THE EMPIRE, ISLINGTON.

KING'S PALACE, PRESTON.

When our representative was courteously shown over this fine house by the resident-manager, Mr. W. J. Boyle, and the architect, Mr. C. W. Heath, of Manchester, an army of workmen were putting the finishing touches to as lovely, ornate, comfortable, convenient, and commodious a pleasure palace as any to be seen in the provinces.

From the exterior, though neat in design and imposing in size, the King's Palace calls for no special eulogium. Being situate away from the main thoroughfare, no effort has been made to dazzle with ornate elevations, but the commodious verandahs make for the convenience of queues waiting "between the houses" on the streets which abut on three sides of the house.

The main entrance opens on to the pay boxes and large Jacobean foyer, with its plush-covered settees, oak-panelled walls, tessellated floor, and ornate leaded lights. From the foyer a Jacobean corridor, en suite with the foyer, leads direct to the orchestra stalls and pit stalls in the body of the house; the foyer itself being behind the stage. The manager's offices open direct on to the foyer on one side, and to the stage on the other, giving unique control of the whole house.

The auditorium is a delightful scheme of cream and gold in Louis XIV. style, crowned with a magnificently designed roof in fibrous plaster, carried out by Mr. Bardell, of London and Birmingham (together with the decorations generally). This gentleman also carried out the famous roof of Hammerstein's Opera House, and a little bird whispers that he considers the roof of the King's at Preston a big improvement on that design. The chief charms of the roof design are a triplice of pilastered ogive domes in the centre, decorated with bold sunbursts in gold, and flanked by two huge frescoed paintings.

The proscenium is a bold opening, with gold and cream pilaster frame, flanked by sienna marble columns, and two roomy stage boxes en suite, from which springs the bold curve of the circle. The fauteuils in the orchestra stalls are upholstered in gold plush, seating 485; in the stalls the tip-up seats are in apple-green seating 570, and the pit has 810 tip-up seats in red plush. The circle has tip-up seats for 670 more, making a total seating capacity of 2,600, with ample standing room for 400 more. At the back of the circle is a commodious "crush-room." From all parts of the house handy exit-doors, all fitted with panic bolts, are ready to clear the whole house in less than two minutes. From every seat a clear view of the stage is unobstructed by pillars of any kind.

The stage itself is equipped with every modern contrivance, and with a clear depth of 36ft., and width of over 70ft., and a "lift" of 50ft., will accommodate the most exigent of "shows." Both beneath and aloft every part is "sprinklered," fitted with heating and lighting apparatus of the best, and commodious to a degree.

The switch-board in the wings is a modern wonder. Divided into three panels, each coupled with double pole controllers, and knife-board switches giving control of every part of the house and the stage, over 1,000 lights can be handled by one switchman with ease and precision. On the stage alone, 459 lamps, each of 32 c.p., are coupled up, excluding the big arcs used for the "lime-boxes."

The general effect of the whole scheme of decoration and arrangement in front is one of spacious airiness and comfort, and the whole design is a revelation to provincial theatre-goers. The theatre is the outcome of the long experience of Mr. W. H. Broadhead and his staff of the needs of provincial theatre-goers, and it is no secret that the proprietor considers the new house the "best ever," either in the provinces or in town.

One singular feature of the new house is that no provision has been made for "pictures" or for refreshment bars, a significant fact in view of Mr. Broadhead's long connection with popular entertaining.

OPENING NIGHT.

The opposition to the granting of a licence to Mr. W. H. Broadhead's new variety house at Preston gave the King's Palace a first-rate advertisement, and two bumper houses on Thursday, the opening night, showed the popular approval of Mr. Broadhead's vigorous enterprise. It was not till late on Monday that the opening date was decided on, and at that time the artistes had not been booked, but by Wednesday morning the town was flooded with posters announcing a tip-top vaudeville show.

Charles Barnold's clever dog and monkey actors topped the bill with their unassisted comedy, "A Hot Time in Dogville," the smart business put up by "Dan," as the drunken corner boy, coming in for the lion's share of the continuous applause that greeted every incident in the show. John Tiller's famous Twelve Sunshine Girls, in their "Hitchy koo" dance and chorus, and other rag-time and ballet numbers, were prime favourites. Donald and Carson, billed as America's favourite Scottish comedian, and his bonnie lassie, deserved the ovation awarded without stint for a show that went with a bang; and the Four Musical Gardners, an Australian quartette of tip-top musicians, produced a rare turn. Will Douglas and his trio of merry demons, in their acrobatic comedy; the Harvard Quintette, in a smart up-to-date song and dance scena; and Harry Taft, the whistling comedian, made up an exceptionally strong bill, worthy of the occasion. With a house packed to its full capacity of 3,000 "and a bittock," even a second-rate show would have gone without pushing, so the really first-class fare provided pleased everybody mightily, and gave the new house a send-off that augurs well for its future. With characteristic acumen, the experienced proprietor dispensed with all ceremony beyond the traditional custom of playing of "God Save the King" before the overture by the full orchestra, under the baton of Mr. Robert Peel.

DUBLIN CHARITY CONCERT.

One of the most successful charity concerts held in Dublin for many years took place at the Tivoli Theatre (by kind permission of the manager, Mr. Chas. M. Jones) last Saturday matinée before a large and fashionable audience, including the Lord Mayor and his party. Besides many local artistes, for which Dublin is famous, many of the principal artistes appearing in the local theatres lent their aid. Miss Barbara Babington came from the Gaiety Theatre and rendered a pretty sentimental ditty, which the audience were not slow to appreciate in no uncertain manner. Martin Adeson, in his dame costume, and Katie Marsh, also from the Gaiety, helped to enliven the proceedings. From the Queen's Theatre we had Ray and Jack, who have been the "star" success of "Mother Goose" pantomime. Their rendering of "Havana," attired in their Early Victorian costumes, completely brought down the house. Jimmy Law and the Boston Boys, who came across from the Empire, were eminently successful. In addition to these most of the Tivoli artistes themselves appeared, also Mr. Jock McDermott, whose "Joshua" number was loudly encored. Messrs. Manning and Maiben brought along their mandolines, to the huge delight of all, and the ever-popular Fred Jeffs told some of his amusing yarns. Mr. Clarke Barry's band played some seasonable selections; and Mr. E. J. Taylor, at the head of the Tivoli orchestra, rendered invaluable service.

At the conclusion of the performance Mr. Wm. Gleeson, B.L., chairman of the Concert Committee, thanked the management, staff and artistes, who all gave their services free.

VARIETY LAW.

MANAGER NOT LICENSEE.

At the Cardiff Stipendiary's Court on Friday (31st), Herbert J. Taylor, manager of the Empire, Cardiff, was summoned for failing to keep the gangways and passages of the hall clear during a performance.

Mr. F. W. Ensor prosecuted for the Corporation, and Mr. St. John Francis Williams (instructed by Messrs. Vachell and Co.) defended. On Jan. 10 Acting Superintendent Davies and a sergeant entered the hall about 9.30 in the evening when the performance was on, and found downstairs the whole of the gangways and passages completely blocked with people. The Acting Superintendent called the attention of the manager to the state of the gangways, and he replied, "Give me time and I will get them put straight."

Supt. Davies then went outside and remained there for twenty minutes. During that time nobody came out of the building. He returned to the theatre and saw the place in the same congested state as before, and told the manager he would be reported.

Mr. St. John Francis Williams at this stage drew the Stipendiary's attention to the fact that the person summoned was Herbert J. Taylor, whereas the licence was made out in the name of another person. The summons was therefore dismissed.

MLLE. GENEE AND AGENTS.

In the King's Bench Division on Thursday, before Mr. Justice A. T. Lawrence and a special jury, Mlle. Adeline Genée was defendant in an action for damages for an alleged breach of contract brought by Messrs. Somerald and Co., theatrical agents.

The plaintiffs' case was that, on behalf of defendant, Mr. Donald Arthur entered into a contract for her to appear at the Kidderminster Opera House on the evening of April 17, 1912. The arrangement was, however, not carried out, and defendant now contended that Mr. Arthur had no authority to act on her behalf in the matter.

Mr. Rose-Innes, K.C., for plaintiffs, said that the contract in question was entered into on April 1, 1912, through the medium of Mr. Donald Arthur, a gentleman who had acted for the lady before this date. He was told that Mlle. Genée was at the present time fulfilling an engagement in the United States, and in consequence her evidence had been taken on commission. With regard to Mr. Donald Arthur, endeavours had been made to subpœna him as a witness, but without success.

Counsel proceeded to read the correspondence which had passed between plaintiffs and Mr. Arthur with regard to defendant, and submitted that it was clear from this that Mr. Arthur was acting as the lady's agent, the same being apparent from the contract. Every preparation was made for Mlle. Genée, but on the afternoon of April 17 the following telegram was received by the manager of the Kidderminster Opera House:

Regret Mlle. Genée and party unable appear this evening owing sudden indisposition.—Donald Arthur.

Of course, added counsel, this intimation put his clients to considerable inconvenience and expense, and he submitted that they were, in consequence, entitled to damages.

Mr. E. Gray, of the plaintiff company, said that his firm controlled a considerable number of theatres in London and the provinces. He spoke as to entering into the contract with Mr. Donald Arthur, on behalf of Mlle. Genée, and the preparations made at Kidderminster for her reception.

Cross-examined by Mr. Holman Gregory, K.C., witness said that Mr. Donald Arthur had carried on business in the name of the London Star Artiste Syndicate.

And, as such, have you made contracts with him for the filling-up of evenings by "star" artistes?—I have not taken any notice of the London Star Artiste Syndicate, but have done business with him as Mr. Donald Arthur.

You enter into an agreement with him, and he provides a company with, as a rule, a "star" artiste?—He acts for the "star" artiste.

You enter into a contract with him?—For the artiste he represents.

Counsel called witness's attention to the bill announcing Mlle. Genée's engagement, "by arrangement with the London Star Artiste Syndicate."

In her evidence, which was read, defendant stated that in the early part of March, 1912, she returned to London from Vienna, and had an interview with her agents, Messrs. Wollheims (Ltd.). A tour, proposed by Mr. Donald Arthur, was discussed, and she subsequently gave performances, in various towns. Mr. Arthur organised the performances, and Mr. A. Wolheims made the arrangements on her behalf. She did not engage the other members of the company, and did not know the terms upon which they were engaged. Mr. Arthur was not her agent or manager. He told her that he had cancelled Kidderminster because he did not know anything about the theatre.

His lordship was of opinion that there was no evidence to show that Mr. Arthur was authorised to make the contract on behalf of Mlle. Genée.

Judgment was accordingly entered for defendant, with costs.

ZOOLOGICAL REVUE AT THE SCALA.

The zoological revue, "Peeps into Nature," is a fine series of films presented this week at the Scala Theatre. These remarkable photographs are reproduced in their natural colours, and were taken in Carl Hagenbeck's world-famous garden menagerie at Hamburg, at Smyrna, and at our own Zoological Gardens. The collection reveals all sorts of animals, birds, and insects, large and small, in their natural conditions, and has taken some three years to make.

A special series of Kinemacolor films are to be shown at the Coliseum next week, and thus patrons will be afforded an opportunity of judging between the two latest developments in colour cinematography, i.e., the kinemacolor and Gaumont's "Chrono-chrome," which has created so much interest during the past few weeks.

Mlle. Victoria Fer, the prima donna who was so enthusiastically received at the London Opera House, is coming to England this week for the special purpose of appearing at the Palladium next Sunday. Her manager has gained for her permission to sing "Sheila," probably the most successful waltz melody of the season, and one which Mlle. Fer describes as enchanting. At the afternoon concert the soloist will be accompanied by the Beecham Orchestra, which will probably be conducted by Mr. Busoni, while in the evening the composer of "Sheila" will be at the piano. The composer, who, up to now, has been known to the public only as Nemo, is Mr. F. Keith Jones, a director of Keith, Prowse, and Co., and he is also responsible for that popular two-step, "Sheila's Wedding." In addition to being a composer and musician, Mr. Keith Jones, one of the best known men in the entertainment world of London, is also chief officer of the Sutton Fire Brigade and a member of the Sutton Urban District Council. The "Sheila" waltz was specially selected to be played at the State Ball at Buckingham Palace.

MR. COOPER MITCHELL.

"Entertainers at the Piano" have, of late, been appearing on the professional horizon with gentle persistency; but the asertion cannot be disputed that it is rare indeed to discover a gentleman who has so rapidly, and deservedly, won his way into popular favour as Mr. Cooper Mitchell, who on Monday next commences his second engagement at the London Coliseum.

An "Era" representative therefore sought out and found this genial maker of mirth and music at the London Coliseum. Somewhat the converse of the usual order of things was followed upon the occasion, for, whilst Mr. Cooper Mitchell picturesquely posed at the O.P. side of the Grand Piano, the Journalist sat at the keyboard—endeavouring to extract subtle melodies, pianissimo, in both the major and minor keys, to "accompany" the informing and interesting conversation of the artist.

"Yes, Sir Knight of the Pen, I must confess that I am proud to be able to say I have achieved my present position in my profession during the period of but two years (Fortissimo, please. Thanks). Of course, prior to that period I had been occupied somewhat considerably with entertaining, at concerts, at homes, &c.; whilst in the day time I was 'Something in the City.' No,

MR. COOPER MITCHELL.

not Jam or Pickles. My occupation was not so nourishing. Well, as the years went by I was building up for myself a great admiration for the late Mel. B. Spurr; and ultimately, at his instigation, and under the friendly guidance of Mr. Nelson Jackson, I seriously applied myself to the work of 'Entertaining at the Piano.'

"Yes, my next observation may be 'accompanied' by a sustained pianissimo. You kindly ask me to what especial cause do I attribute my success. Seriously, I do not yet consider I have achieved it, in its fullest sense; and when I have I feel I shall thoroughly realise it is easier to attain it than maintain it.

"It is an immense encouragement to a man in my profession to receive approbation from 'high quarters'; and I hope I may be permitted to state how highly flattered I felt to learn that Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Albany had desired the Comptroller of her Household to express to me her great satisfaction with the entertainment I gave at Claremont at the close of the old year, the letter concluding: 'And I am to tell you Her Royal Highness could not possibly have been more pleased.' I have also been personally complimented upon my entertainment by H.R.H. the Princess Louise; H.R.H. Prince Christopher also expressed himself 'immensely amused at my refined, humorous, and musical talent' when I appeared at the Greek Legation. Again, Sir Charles Wyndham wrote me a characteristically charming letter of appreciation; and the Marquis of Huntley and several other members of the aristocracy have written me letters in a similar vein; and last, but not least, my good friends on the Press have been universally kind and generous in their recognition of my work. So—well, let me take your place, please, and play a merry roundelay. There!

"Notwithstanding my gratifying success, I assure you I do not have to go to Heath's at least once a week to procure new hats of increasing size. You did think I would. Thanks! I thought you would not. Now, as I am—perforce—in an egotistical vein, I may as well continue by saying that my entertainment comprises refined, original, humorous sketches and songs at the piano, character sketches, musical monologues, dialect stories, &c.; and I am prepared to provide, unassisted, a humorous ten minutes or a versatile two hours.

"Yes, there is, as you surmise, a considerable difference between At Home work and Music-hall work; but I have encountered most pleasurable experiences in both branches—in Town and in the provinces. Doubtless the conditions now obtaining in the Entertaining world are vastly different to what they were in Corney Grain's time—if one may judge from some of this clever and amusing man's related experiences."

"And concerning your forthcoming engagement at the Coliseum?"

"Well, as this is my second appearance at this house within quite a recent period, I am led to believe my entertainment has proved popular with its audiences. This is very gratifying to me. It is not improbable I may be 'Curtain Raiser' soon at a leading West-End theatre. But, hush! We are observed. More anon."

"OIL AND WATER."

This fine A.B. production in two reels tells a stage story of strong dramatic interest, and was released by the M.P. Sales Agency, Ltd., on Feb. 6. An "idealist" visits a theatre to witness a classical ballet, "The Fleeting of Time," and becomes infatuated with a dancer. Later he proposes, and marries her. A few years elapse, and the husband, engrossed in his studies, fails to see that his wife—although passionately fond of their child—is tired of her surroundings. Two former friends visit her, and old associations are revived; but the husband refuses to allow her stage friends to call, and an angry scene takes place between them. Eventually she leaves her home and returns to the stage. The child is left by the nurse—who is ill—in the care of his father, and so interested is he in his books that he fails to notice the youngster's absence from the room. Meanwhile the child leaves the house, wanders on, and is lost. He is found by his mother, who with a party of friends has just left the theatre. Missing the child, the father searches everywhere for him, and meets the mother, who has brought the boy home. The father appeals to her to stay, but in vain. Declaring that "Your ways are not mine; oil and water each to its own course," she departs, leaving the father and child alone. The acting throughout is excellent, and the classical and other dances introduced add considerably to its attractiveness.

The Ten Dixie Girls have added two more numbers to their popular repertoire, "Good-bye, sweetheart, good-bye" (Francis Day), and "You are the ideal of my dreams" (Feldman). Both songs are specially arranged for the orchestra, with vocal accompaniment by J. Carter, and meet with an ovation.

ALDERSHOT NEW HIPPODROME.

GRAND OPENING.

In spite of the very many houses of amusement in Aldershot, with its thirty thousand population, the opening of the new Hippodrome, which is another of Mr. Clarence Saunes's ventures, has been looked forward to by a large number of theatregoers for some time past. The new Hippodrome, situate as it is on the very threshold of Aldershot, near the railway station, and practically in the centre of the town itself, is a palatial adornment to the town, with a seating accommodation of some 1,500, and has been built at a cost of £15,000. Towering away to a height not often ventured upon in Aldershot architecture, the new house of amusement erected by Mr. Saunes suggests many possibilities within.

The opening on Monday marked an important step in the provision of public amusement for the residents. Mr. Saunes very wisely entrusted the planning of the new house to that experienced theatre designer, Mr. Bertie Crewe, who was responsible for the London Opera House. What Mr. Crewe does not know about theatre architecture is not worth knowing. Messrs. Merryweather are responsible for the fire appliances; Messrs. Offer and Son, of Kingston, are responsible for the electrical appliances; and Messrs. Wilkins Brothers have carried out the furnishing of one of the finest and most up-to-date pleasure palaces in the country, and one of which Mr. Saunes may well be proud.

The colour scheme is a delightfully pleasing one, giving a most restful appearance, and a charming effect is introduced by the saxe blue carpets covering the floors. All the drapings are in terra cotta and saxe blue. The same scheme is introduced in the tea-room and bars, which are furnished with luxurious lounges. The building is brilliantly lighted, and the electric light shades are tinted to match the remainder of the house. Much attention has been paid to the ventilation, electric fans being provided in all parts of the house in such a way that the foul air and smoke will be forced out of one side, while fresh air will be drawn in on the other.

That Mr. Saunes intends to provide first-rate programmes is evident from the turns booked for the opening week. John Warren, the dramatic illusionist, presents three distinct styles of magic in rapid sequence. Chas. Kasrac and company, in "Buffet De Falls," contribute an exceedingly clever acrobatic turn, as well as being screamingly funny. Duncan and Godfrey are appearing in an amusing sketch, entitled "The Coster's Courtship." Chas. Kitts and Rhoda Windrum are giving their latest and greatest sketch, "Our Baby." Tom Woottwell, the well-known London favourite, gives his latest London successes in his own inimitable way. J. H. Wakefield, the popular coon impersonator and dancer; the Four Debutantes, in their charming musical, vocal, and dancing act; and the Sisters Jerome, duettists and simultaneous dancers, make up a programme that cannot fail to prove enjoyable to the patrons of this beautiful house. There is an efficient orchestra of fourteen performers.

Altogether the new Aldershot Hippodrome is "the last word" in theatre construction and comfort; and its up-to-date and enterprising proprietor has received many letters of good wishes and a host of personal felicitations from his friends and patrons on his latest addition to provincial variety theatres of the highest class. It is interesting to note that Mr. Saunes has been connected with Aldershot for many years. It was he who came to the rescue when the old Victory was burnt to the ground in 1889. It was by his perseverance that the ways and means were made possible for the present Theatre Royal (which is another of Mr. Saunes's houses) to be built.

On Monday night there was a crowded audience to witness the opening, and days before every seat had been booked. A good programme was presented under ideal conditions, and during an interval Mr. Clarence Saunes made a point of welcoming his audience.

He said he took the opportunity of thanking his patrons for the hearty welcome, and assuring all that it will be his endeavours to study everybody. He hoped that they would come again. An old friend of his had told him that he had been asked what "nippodrome" meant, and he had answered "hippo" means music and "drome" hall. (Laughter.) However, the old-fashioned music hall was a thing of the past. Hippodrome and Empires had followed, and he had a good programme of attractions for his Aldershot Hippodrome. He wanted the new house to be a resort for husbands, wives, and their children; if at any time there was anything that did not appear just the thing he would be glad if the attention of the manager was called to it, and he could safely say that it would meet with due and grateful consideration. Whilst hoping that his patrons would patronise the new hippodrome, he also hoped they would not forget the Theatre Royal, where he always had a good class of programme. He hoped they would not forget either. If there were any shortcomings in connection with the opening might he was sure they would overlook them; it took time to get things in working order.

For the excellent arrangements in connection with the opening, much praise is due to Mr. Jack Gladwin, Mr. Saunes's general-manager, and to Mr. Cyril Royce, the resident-manager. With such bills of fare and careful management which does not allow of anything being left undone, nothing but a full meed of success is in store for the new Aldershot Hippodrome. It should be mentioned that the stage is 35 by 55 feet.

By kind permission of the *Aldershot News*.

THE NEW HIPPODROME, ALDERSHOT.

Proprietor and Manager, Mr. CLARENCE SOUNES.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted at a recent meeting of the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association:—"This General Council of the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association of Great Britain and Ireland, composed of delegates from all parts of the kingdom, having unanimously decided that it is diametrically opposed to the interests of exhibitors that any manufacturer or manufacturers should stop the sale of ordinary films published by them, strongly advise all exhibitors to refrain from exhibiting the productions of any manufacturer or manufacturers attempting to exclusively hire their own films."

DEATH OF BARNEY STUART.

Many will hear with regret of the sudden death of Mr. Barney Stuart, which occurred on Thursday last at his lodgings in Seymour-street, Liverpool. The deceased comedian had been appearing during the week at the Scala Theatre, Seacombe. Whilst on his way there on Thurs-

[*Photo. by Charles and Russell.*

THE LATE MR. BARNEY STUART.

day he was taken suddenly ill, and on returning to his lodgings died within a short time from failure of the heart's action. Much sympathy has gone out to his brother, Mr. Tom Stuart, who has felt the shock very keenly.

The deceased comedian, who was forty-one years of age, had been about twenty years in the profession. The son of Dr. Cowe, of St. Stephen's-green, Dublin, he was educated at Trinity College, but, while a young man, abandoned his intention of adopting a medical career in order to go on the stage. For a long time he was connected with the Moore and Burgess Minstrels, and afterwards joined Adeler and Sutton, pier entertainers, and Verno and Voyce, sketch artistes. He was of a most genial disposition, and his sudden death at an early age came as a shock to his many friends. The funeral took place on Monday at Anfield Cemetery, Liverpool, and was attended by his brother, sister, his wife and children, and also Leslie Bell, Pat Duddy, and Mr. J. Livesque, who represented Messrs. Adeler and Sutton. Floral tributes were sent by Mr. Shaun Glenville, Joe Bleasdale, the brothers Tom and Sam, Mrs. Stuart (wife), the children, Sister Teb, Florrie Forde, Mrs. Egerton (a harp with a broken string), of the American Bar, Charlie Duddie and Dot.

THE GRAND, CLAPHAM.

The bill this week has created more than usual interest, for it is crammed full of good things. On the evening of our visit two turns were deputised, the Great Coram, the eminent ventriloquist, appearing in the place of Tom Leamore, and Amann, the famous impersonator of living and dead imperial and political celebrities, repeating his characters under the number of Harry Marvello's "The Silver Hat," which turn, by the way, it was found necessary to transfer to the Balham Hippodrome. These alterations of cast nevertheless brought conspicuous success, for Coram, who is a particular favourite, received quite an ovation, and the house rocked with laughter again and again at the witty sallies and dry humour of his facetious "doll," who (or which?), at the end of the turn, being disgusted with life in general, and with his master in particular, now walks off the stage like any human being. Amann impersonates twelve characters, and all are excellent and most life-like. There is no lack of interest in this turn, for Amann is a power all unto himself, and knows the secret of how to win hands.

Mr. Harry Russon is an actor-comedian of great merit, and there is something very true in the song, "Bluff, all bluff!"—a philosophical, yet funny song. Mr. Russon also renders with skill and ingenuity Rudyard Kipling's "The Water Carrier," a thrilling soldier's recitation, with plenty of Indian colour and atmosphere. Bonnetti and Corrie are, without a doubt, the funniest, and cleverest, jugglers seen here for many a long day, and there was no escaping from the hearty laughter that followed trick after trick. Grant and Grant, it will be recalled, are the American octoroons, a lady and a gentleman. They sing to coon music, which is always taking, about "Sambo and Dinah," and each contributes a highly exciting and picturesque dance, which catches the affectionate sympathy of their audiences. She who makes the whole town sing is Miss Mabel Thorne, whose favourite song was, on this visit, as on the last, "Every sailor's true when on the ocean"—a song with a melodious swing to it. The audience sang the bright and moving chorus at every recurrence, and the artiste the verses. The second number gives the lady, who has a splendid stage presence, fine opportunities for coming into "personal" contact with the audience. It is a song with a "you" in it, the "you" being anyone of the audience whom the lady indicates with an emphatic finger. It causes a good deal of hilarious excitement and harmless fun. In a very smart vocal and drilling act, called the "Germania Ensemble," the Eight Germania Girls appear, and add to the laurels they have gathered since their appearance in this country. The technique of their dancing is faultless, their singing is musical and good, and they work splendidly together. The big turn is "The Little Stowaway," a nautical sketch, in two tableaux, presented by Miss Ethel Arden and George Abel. Written by Fred. Bowyer, and the music by Mr. T. Gray, the sketch has been revised by George Abel and H. J. Robinson, and the cast includes Miss Nellie Morris, Miss Josephine Lee, and Messrs. W. H. Brougham, T. Homewood, E. Lea, C. Cecil, George Abel, and Master Arthur Braby. The stage effects are wonderfully realistic, and Mr. E. A. Conham is to be congratulated upon his successful share of the mechanical part of the work. Mr. Fred. C. Cockerill holds the managerial reins of the house, with Mr. W. J. Fox as acting-manager, and Mr. H. E. Harris as musical-director.

MISSION OF THE MUSIC HALL.

Prior to his departure for America, Mr. Harry Lauder was captured by a representative of the "Edinburgh Evening News," who extracted from the popular comedian interesting views on the influence of the modern variety theatre. "The music hall," said Harry, is the greatest institution that has yet been invented for bringing men together socially. The British people are not really sociable by nature. They are reserved and cold. The music hall is breaking down that feeling amongst us. The bright lights, the crashing music, the fun on the stage, the come-and-go atmosphere—you know you can skip a 'turn' if you see it is not to your taste—all help to put a man at ease with himself, and then when he can join in a chorus or only hum it, he feels better disposed with his fellow men and more genial all round. There was no place where the ordinary man could mingle with his fellows freely—except the pub—until the present music halls arose. In the ordinary theatre, where the legitimate drama is played, you have not the same feeling as in a music hall. You are in a critical mood there, and nearly the whole of the time sit in darkness. You are simply a lot of individual men and women; but in the music hall you become part of a united band.

"The average music hall entertainment is a great improvement on what it used to be, but I am sure it could stand a lot of improving.

"The filling up of a full programme week after week is not too easy work, but I think managers might very well act more drastically as censors than they do at present. It's these wretched turns, that are perhaps only engaged to fill a programme, that still keep hundreds away. I am quite sure that the vast majority of audiences don't really want vulgarity, and that it does not pay in the end to offend the majority of your best patrons in order to raise a laugh from a few who delight in ribald stuff. There's plenty of genuine comedy and fun in life to provide a comedian with all the material he wants without raking in the dirt. Do you know, it never occurred to me, even from my first appearance in a music hall, to go in for any objectionable or suggestive work. I served my apprenticeship on the concert platform. I used to sing a lot at soirées in Glasgow—trade soirées, plumbers, brass-finishers, and others. Well, these were great affairs. The man and the wife and the bairns used to make a night out of them. It was there I began to sing and tell stories, and I just gave them homely things about what they knew and liked, and, in any case, you wouldn't have been allowed to descend to anything improper. Well, when I came to London to try my luck I just gave the same things I was in the habit of doing at the soirées; in fact, sang a lot of the very same songs, and told the very same stories, and I have never even thought of going in for the other stuff.

"The remedy lies mostly with the managers themselves. If they would keep a stricter watch over their entertainers, and have greater courage in telling anyone, no matter who he was, to cut out certain objectionable songs or patter, we should soon see a change. And the Press might do a lot in their criticisms.

"With regard to picture theatres," added Mr. Lauder, "I have not the slightest fear about the future. Picture theatres appeal to a different class. They have tapped classes that never went to music halls or even theatres. Then it's all dumb show there, and that can never compete with the live, bright, and glittering show of a music hall."

At the recent final meeting of the General Committee of the Coleridge-Taylor Memorial Concert the chairman announced that the net proceeds amounted to £1,014 10s. 7d., which will be handed to the trustees and applied for the benefit of the widow and children of the composer.

ARTISTES' PRESS ALBUM.

This column is placed at the disposal of artistes who desire to give added publicity to the opinions passed by the Press upon their acts. Particulars of insertion may be obtained on application to the Advertisement Manager.

LUDWIG AMANN.

A turn of exceptional interest is Mr. Ludwig Amann, an impersonator of celebrities. He has extraordinary control of his facial muscles, and without make-up presents a counterfeit of many notable people. In a long and varied list his Napoleon, Gladstone, Chamberlain, and the late King Edward were most prominent. We have seen many impersonators who, even with make-up, have not nearly reached this standard of excellence.—"Western Daily Press," Bristol, Jan. 28, 1913.

KING'S PALACE, PRESTON.

LICENCE OPPOSED.

Strenuous opposition was offered to Mr. W. H. Broadhead's application for a dramatic licence (under the Theatres Act), and a music, singing and dancing licence (under the local Improvement Act) for his new King's Palace Theatre, Old Vicarage, Preston, at the Preston Borough Police Court on Monday. Mr. J. Hodgson was counsel for the applicant, and opposing him were Mr. Wingate Saul for the Empire Theatre, Mr. Jordan for the Theatre Royal, and Mr. J. Parker (solicitor, Preston) for the Prince's Theatre.

The pleas of the opposition were that the new theatre was not required for the needs of the town (which already possesses two theatres, two music halls, and twelve picture halls to serve a population of less than 120,000), that the site of the theatre was inconvenient, and that another licence would depreciate the value of existing places of amusement.

For the applicant, Mr. Hodgson urged that the only questions that ought to be considered were whether the applicant was a suitable person, and whether the premises were structurally adapted for the purpose for which the licence was asked. The fact that Mr. Broadhead owned sixteen other theatres in the county, all of which were well conducted, was sufficient answer to the first question, and as the Bench had viewed the new building themselves that morning nothing much need be said on the second point.

In the box, Mr. W. H. Broadhead said the building more than met all the requirements of the L.C.C. in the interests of public safety and convenience. It was designed to accommodate 3,000 persons, and, with open streets on three sides of the building, had fourteen exits, all fitted with panic bolts, convenient to every part of the house. Every modern device against fire had been utilised, and the stage, every part of which was sprinkled with the latest automatic devices, could be shut off at a moment's notice from the auditorium with a fire-proof asbestos curtain behind armoured fire-proof walls and doors.

Closely cross-examined by opposing counsel in turn, Mr. Broadhead said he had built the theatre with the intention of staging shows and artistes of a class which could only be seen by Preston people by going to Manchester or Liverpool. The place had a bigger stage and bigger holding capacity than his other house in Preston, the Royal Hippodrome. He did not think that Preston was already sufficiently well provided for, as other houses were often crowded on two nights a week at least, and he had confidence that the Preston people would appreciate good shows and return him a profit on the venture. Lancashire people, proverbially, always enjoyed themselves when they got the chance. He had not abandoned the idea of staging drama, operatic entertainments, or heavy shows at the King's, but he would not stage vaudeville shows at the King's and the Hippodrome in the same week.

Pressed by Mr. Wingate Saul to say whether the Hippodrome had made a profit or a loss since the Empire Theatre opened, Mr. Broadhead declined to answer, his counsel objecting. Mr. Wingate Saul asked the Bench to state a case on that question, as they ruled against him, and said the question struck at the root of the opposition, which was directed to show that the licence applied for was not necessary to the requirements of the town. He would not be prepared to give up the Hippodrome licence.

Mr. Allan W. Young, manager of the Empire Theatre, said Preston was more adequately provided in the way of theatres than any other town in the kingdom. A safe average for a manager was to calculate upon a third of the population as possible patrons, which would give an average of 40,000 people for one theatre in Preston. The four theatres now licensed would, on that basis, have a catering capacity of 100,000.

Mr. E. H. Page, proprietor of the Prince's Theatre, said Preston was notorious in theatrical circles for the fact that not one of its theatres realised a decent return for the capital sunk in them. If it were not for his theatre at Blackburn, which was "a little gold mine," he would have been ruined by the Prince's Theatre.

By a substantial majority of the nineteen justices on the Bench, the licence was granted subject to confirmation on May 28, the annual licensing day.

"MEN IS SICH FULES."

Original Scotch Sketch, by Charles Hannan, Produced at the Empress, Brixton, on Monday, Feb. 3.

Macgregor ..... Mr. Milroy Cooper
Mistress Mackie ..... Miss H. Cavendish
Greta ..... Miss Eva McRoberts
Macconochie ..... Mr. George Tawde
Jimmy of the Hills ..... Mr. Geo. Gordon

In connection with this production, the interesting announcement is made that Messrs. Herbert Ralland and Bay Russell "present Mr. George Tawde and Miss Eva McRoberts." It will be remembered that the actor and actress mentioned were the original Rab and Teenie in "Bunty Pulls the Strings" at the Haymarket. Mr. Charles Hannan, the author of "Men Are Sich Fules," has contented himself with a very slight story. The vagaries of lovers afflicted with rare and amusing shyness have been the themes of comic scenes in many a classic of the stage; but in the Scotch characters introduced into the playlet the association of Cupid and canniness makes for laughter. Greta, the niece of the village postmistress, is in love with Macconochie, in the Army, but will not admit the soft impeachment until she hears of his impending departure for the wars, when she immediately capitulates, even though the braw soldier laddie finds its difficult to propose. Mistress Mackie, the more elderly postmistress, has but little scruple in trying to overcome the backwardness of Macgregor, an elder of the kirk, and does not hesitate to make it unmistakably plain to him in various ways that matrimony would be agreeable to her, and that he is the man. The elder politely informs auntie that there is "nothing doing." Mr. George Tawde as the soldier Macconochie, and Miss Eva McRoberts as Greta, supply many moments of merriment, especially the former; and Mr. Milroy Cooper and Miss H. Cavendish are happily cast as the kirk elder and the postmistress.

Mr. John Hyman, of Leicester-square, has supplied the costumes, wigs, &c., for the sketch, "The Ribbed-Nose Baboon," being played at the Empire, Islington; also the whole of the costumes and wigs for the Prince's Theatre production, "The Indian Mutiny."

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, Jan. 29.—"Somewhere Else," a musical fantasy in two acts, was produced by Henry W. Savage at the Broadway Theatre on the 20th inst. Avery Hopwood wrote the book and lyrics, the music being composed by Gustav Luders. The scene of the play is supposed to be an undiscovered land where the scientific inventions of a hundred years hence have become quite ordinary. There is a Weather Bureau that controls instead of predicting; and devices for publicly registering falsehoods make truth-telling a universal custom. Any wish is gratified, providing the gratification hurts no one. Billy Getaway, of New York, is brought hither by his yacht. He is 30 years old, while his late wife was 65, and his step-daughter, Hepzibah Dodds, is 45 and abnormally heavy. Getaway is anxious to escape from Hepzibah, but she has shipped herself as a stowaway, and is on his track. He falls in love with Mary VII., Queen of Somewhere Else, and in order to deceive her represents his step-daughter to be only three years old. His friend, Rocky Rixon, hypnotises Hepzibah into believing herself an infant, and she is introduced to the Queen in a monster perambulator. Hepzibah awakes, and threatens to make trouble for her step-father, but she falls in love with a native, and all ends happily. Mr. Taylor Holmes was extremely amusing as Getaway, and Miss Cecil Cunningham, as the Queen, sang delightfully. Miss Elene Leska, a Hungarian singer, won favour in the part of Chloe, also playing the violin. Miss Catherine Hayes as Hepzibah, Mr. Will Philbrick as Villainus, and Mr. Donald Chalmers as an executioner, contributed to the fun of the piece. The most popular musical numbers were a sextette, "Can you do that?" a "Boy Scouts" march, and "Somebody's eyes."

"The Poor Little Rich Girl," a play of fact and fancy, in three acts and an epilogue, by Eleanor Gates, was well received at the Hudson Theatre on Jan. 21. In private life the author is Mrs. Richard Walton Tully, the play being her own dramatisation of her novel of the same title. The "poor litle rich girl" is Gwendolyn, who has reached her eighth birthday. She has everything that money can buy, but hardly knows her own parents, so busy are they with their plans for climbing the social ladder. Jane, the nurse, desiring an evening out with the footman, gives the child a sleeping draught, and in the second act all the things she sees in her dreams are illustrated. She sees her mother holding a bonnet in which the "society bee" is buzzing, while her father, dressed in a suit of money, is harnessed to a machine into which he feeds money and out of which come ducks and drakes to be the child's private teachers. Her governess appears as a hissing snake, and her nurse wears two faces, indicating her duplicity. An old organ-grinder keeps a shop and sells faces and parts of them, such as "stiff upper lips," "big ears," and "black eyes." Gwendolyn sees all these things in the "Tell Tale Forest." In them in turn, the amorous Hans being under the impression that he is having a nightmare. The ballet in the second act was danced to the music of the "Nut Cracker" suite of Tchaikowsky. Mlle. Dazie, assisted by Signor Bonfiglio, appeared in a special dance, and had the misfortune to twist her foot. Miss Charlotte Greenwood, whose limbs are of extraordinary length, or seem to be, caused no end of laughter by the way she used them, and Miss Sophye Barnard, in the rôle of Mme. Colette, made herself popular. Mr. Cecil Lean as Hans, Miss Alice Yorke as the latter's wife, and Mr. Sydney Grant as Wendelin, a country bridegroom, were all very good. The original book has been adapted by Paul M. Potter and Agnes Bangs Morgan.

"The New Secretary," the American version of the successful French comedy, "Le Cœur Disposé," was performed for the first time in New York at the Lyceum Theatre on Jan. 23, before a large audience which enjoyed the piece immensely. Mr. Charles Cherry and Miss Marie Doro appeared in the leading rôles, and were both very successful. The play is all about a young man from the provinces who goes to Paris and obtains a position as secretary to an aristocrat. He falls in love with his employer's daughter, and is promptly snubbed, as she is engaged to be married to her father's business adviser. The secretary discovers that the latter is robbing his employer, and exposes him. This enables him to win the daughter of the man he has so faithfully served. Mrs. Thomas Whiffen, Miss Annie Esmond, Messrs. Ferdinand Gottschalk, Frank Kemble-Cooper, and Claude Gillingwater, played important parts well.

"The Woman of It," a play in three acts, by Frederick Lonsdale, has had a brief run at the Thirty-ninth-street Theatre. It told a story of two young married couples who were dissatisfied with the partners they had taken for better or worse. One husband decided that he would be happier with his friend's wife, and persuaded her to visit him in his rooms. His own wife heard of it and invited the other husband to be there, so that all four met. The rest of the play dealt with the resulting complications. The chief characters were cleverly represented by Misses Janet Beecher and Josephine Brown, Messrs. Cyril Scott, Dallas Anderson, and Wallace Erskine.

Mr. William T. Carleton is appearing as Tenuti, a herald, in "Joseph and His Brethren," at the Century Theatre, his fine voice enabling him to announce the approach of Pharaoh in tones that are fittingly impressive. He was at one time a famous baritone, and in 1884 he formed the Carleton Opera Company. He made his first appearance on the stage as Valentine in "Faust," at Hooley's Theatre, Chicago, in December, 1873, and created the title-rôle in Wagner's "The Flying Dutchman," when the opera was first performed in this country in 1876. His last appearance in a musical play was as Sir Peter Teazle to the Lady Teazle of Miss Lillian Russell in the operatic version of "The School for Scandal," produced at the Casino in 1904.

PRESENTATION TO DAVID DEVANT.

There was an interesting ceremony at St. George's Hall late on Monday evening, after the regular performance was over. Mr. George Wetton, the cleverest and most popular amateur conjurer in England, acting on behalf of the illusionists of the world, presented Mr. David Devant with silver candelabra, a set of silver flower vases, and an illuminated address bearing some of the greatest names in the realms of magic. The framed vellum is a souvenir of the Royal Command Performance at the Palace of last July, and records the fact that Mr. Devant was the only conjurer entertaining thereat.

Mr. Devant acknowledged the kindness of his brother magicians, and referred with special pleasure to the presence of "my dear old friend, John Nevil Maskelyne, who was the first man to give me a long engagement. And he doesn't look as though he regretted it," added Mr. Devant.

The presentation was organised by Mr. Will Goldston, editor of the "Magician," the conjurers' paper, and the ceremony was witnessed by some hundreds of conjurers and other friends who were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. David Devant at a reception. During the evening various impromptu performances were given on the stage, and not the least interested spectator of the proceedings was the St. George's Hall own "disappearing donkey," who was allowed to sit up late for this occasion only.

another scene, called "The Land of Lights," the candles are burning at both ends, this being where Gwendolyn's father toils. In "Robin Hood's Barn" Gwendolyn's doctor keeps all his "hobbies"—wooden hobby horses. Here the parents come to their senses, and Gwendolyn learns to know her father and mother for the first time. Her mother gives up her bonnet with the buzzing bee in it, and they all ride off stage on their hobbies. The last act shows the child's nursery, with Gwendolen coming out of her delirium. Grateful that the doctor has saved her life, the parents agree to pursue happiness instead of wealth. The doctor advises a trip to the country, and as the child falls asleep the background becomes transparent and shows her romping with a collie.

Beautifully staged, the play aroused much enthusiasm. This happy result was largely due to the sincere acting of Miss Viola Dana, who realised the character of Gwendolyn to perfection. Miss Laura Nelson Hall was excellent as the mother, and the father was well represented by Mr. Boyd Nolan. Mr. Howard Hall as the doctor, Mr. Frank Currier as the aged organ-grinder, and Mr. Frank Andrews as the butler acted their rôles cleverly. This is the sort of play that appeals to young and old, and it made a genuine hit.

"The Man with Three Wives," an operetta in three acts, by Franz Lehar, is the current attraction at Weber and Fields' Music Hall. The much-married man referred to in the title is Hans Ziffler, who has wedded a Viennese lady, but has failed to mention the existence of two other ladies to whom he is still betrothed. In a series of adventures which take Hans, his wife, and a number of their friends from Vienna to Paris and thence to London, the difficulties that Hans has with his various fiancées are entertainingly shown. The scene of the first act is the office of the Pickford Tourist Agency, in Vienna. The second act shows the garden of Mme. Colette's ballet school, in Paris, and the final scene is the Geranium Inn in a suburb of London. The musical score comprises 24 numbers, and is quite melodious. The second act had a stirring finale in march time, and Mme. Colette's "Lullaby" was a charming number. In the last act the sextette, "We are free," was well liked. The scene in which Mme. Ziffler meets the two ladies who have a prior claim on her husband is very funny, and there is a diverting episode when he falls asleep and is awakened by each of

Mr. John E. Kellerd appeared in "The Merchant of Venice" before a large and appreciative audience at the Harris Theatre on Jan. 20, after winning critical and popular approval in "Hamlet" for many weeks at the Garden Theatre. Mr. Kellerd's Shylock is a praiseworthy portrayal, and Miss Amelia Gardner is an admirable Portia, the other characters being faithfully represented.

Miss Ethel Barrymore made her vaudeville début at the Colonial Theatre last week, appearing in J. M. Barrie's playlet, "The Twelve-Pound Look." She was recalled many times at the close of her performance, the subtle humour in which the little play abounds having been quickly grasped and keenly enjoyed. Miss Suzanne Sheldon as Lady Sims, and Mr. David Torrence as Sir Harry Sims, won a generous share of the audience's approval.

The Empire Theatre reached its twentieth anniversary on Jan. 25, having been opened on Jan. 25, 1893. The initial attraction was "The Girl I Left Behind Me," by David Belasco and Franklin Fyles. The Empire is Mr. Charles Frohman's "home" theatre, and many notable players served their first "apprenticeship" there.

The Bijou Theatre is about to be sold by auction, and will probably be demolished. Built in 1876, the house was first known as the Brighton Theatre, then as Wood's Theatre, and afterwards as the Bijou Opera House. For some years it was one of the most popular playhouses in this city. Henry E. Dixey, in "Adonis," was one of its most successful attractions during the 'eighties, and Russell's Comedians in "The City Directory" fulfilled a long engagement there. Playgoers of the present generation, however, in thinking of the Bijou Theatre, will remember May Irwin's inimitable coon songs and impersonations, and recall the phenomenal success of "The Music Master," with David Warfield in the title-rôle.

Gustav Carl Luders, composer of many musical successes, including "The Burgomaster" (1900), "King Dodo" (1902), "The Prince of Pilsen" (1903), "The Sho-Gun" (1904), "Woodland" (1905) "The Grand Mogul" (1906), "Marcelle" (1908), and "The Fair Co-Ed" (1908), died of apoplexy in New York on Jan. 24, at the age of 47. He was a native of Bremen. Only a few days before he died a play called "Somewhere Else," for which he had composed the music, was produced at the Broadway Theatre.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(*Continued from page 9*).

NUNEATON.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. Leon Vint; G. M., Mr. Arthur Brogden; R. M., Mr. Chisholm Taylor.—This week: Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company in "The Prairie Outlaw." The company includes: Messrs. F. B. Woulfe, Teddy Davis, Edward Bikker, Herbert Sydney, H. O'Shea, George Scully, F. Wright, J. Jones, F. Campion, and Misses Lorraine, Nellie Masterson, Nina Blake Adams.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PICTUREDROME. — L., Mr. Leon Vint; R. M., Mr. J. J. Kelly.—This week: Morton and Elliott, Daisy and her Eight Stars; and pictures.

OLDHAM.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Oldham Empire Co.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. Harry Kilrow. — This week (once nightly): Mr. Charles Stretton presents "The Gay Lord Quex." The company includes: Mr. C. Leveson Lane, Mr. Charles Harley, Mr. Edgar Reynolds, Mr. J. Poole-Kirkwood, Miss Jess Dorynne, Miss Rita Ward, Miss Violet Harley, Miss Ponsonby Hartshorn, Mr. Fred Henshaw, Mr. Simms, Miss Eva Turnour, Miss Daisy Baldry, Miss Marie Henshaw, Mlle. Juliette Pelletier, Miss Ethel Griffies. T. M., Mr. Arthur T. Barugh. Next week: "The Chocolate Soldier."

ROYAL THEATRE.—P., Oldham Empire Co., G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. J. Hulme; S., Mr. A. S. Mayall.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. T. Edward Ward presents "A Lad's Love." The company includes: Mr. Henry Hallatt, Mr. Alec Wilson-Wynne, Mr. John Blake, Mr. H. Kenneth Barton, Mr. Percy Shaw, Mr. Percy Godfrey, Mr. F. Thorpe-Tracey, Mr. George Walkley, Mr. Frederick Barrett, Mr. George S. Blount, Mr. Roland Ivan, Miss Eily O. Dempsey, Miss Violette May, Miss Lillian Lovell, Miss May Stanhope, Miss Lillian Earle. T. M., Mr. Percy Shaw. Matinee, Tuesday, at 2.15. Next week: "What Happened to Jones."

PALACE.—P., Oldham Empire Co.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. Edmund Sharrock; S., Mr. A. S. Mayall.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Geo. Carney presents "The Fool of the Force"; Nan Gray; Lyons and Cullum; Les Gerlandos, gymnasts; Jimmy Walsh, singing comedian; Evelyn Bingham, soprano vocalist; Roma and Romani, musicians; M. Gaston Chevalier and Mlle. Etoil Le Noir and company; pictures. Next week: "Cinderella."

HIPPODROME.—P., Oldham Empire Co.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. J. Gardner.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Fred Dixon; pictures.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—P., The Dobie Electric Theatres, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Wm. Dobie; Lecturer, Mr. Harry Young.—This week: The Mystic Kolzas, in a mystery act; Little Sadie, child artiste; Wallus, ventriloquist; and pictures.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—P., The Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. C. Gaston.—This week: Charles Gaston, in an illustrated song-scena; and pictures.

OXFORD.

PALACE.—P., Messrs. Leyton and Seddon; M., Mr. P. Leonard.—This week (twice nightly): The Eight College Girls, in singing and dancing; W. Wentley, Scottish comedian; Scott and Black, ragtimers; and pictures.

PAISLEY.

HIPPODROME.—Sole P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; A. M., Mr. Jack R. Bostock; Mus. D., Mr. Thomas Richardson.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Harry Day and Edward Lauri present their pantomime, "Cinderella." The company includes: Messrs. Jack Harris, James Ross, George Loyal, Kimberley and Melbourne, George Bass, and the Misses Dora Christian, Grace Ross, Kitty West, Dorothy Hope, Katrina Blakowska, May Ronayne, Rosalie Jacobi, and Empsie Bowman. Also the Lottie Stone and Austin Troupes of dancers.

PEMBROKE DOCK.

WHITE'S PICTURE PALACE.—B. M., Mr. Alf Shirley.—This week: Miss Jess Thorne, comedienne; the Dancing Melias, vocal duo and dancers; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

PENTRE.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Mr. W. E. Willis; M., Mr. James Gunn.—This week: Mr. Robert Macdonald presents "The Gay Gordons." The company includes: Messrs. Reginald Sharland, Richd. Teasdale, W. H. Esmond, J. B. Gordon, George Fisher, Eric Ford, John Fanning, E. M. Williams, and the Misses Emily Mellon, Edie Martin, Ruby Louis, Nellie Beacon, Rene Ash, and Constance Clive. M., Mr. Wm. Collard.

WORKMEN'S HALL.—M., Mr. H. Salway.—This week (twice nightly): Rennie and Roxburgh, musicians; Lauri Bros., athletes; and pictures. Matinée, Wednesday, 11.

PENZANCE.

PAVILION.—P., The Cornish Riviera Entertainments Co., Ltd.; M., Mr. Frederic Dale.—For last week and this: The Sparks have been playing before appreciative audiences. The company includes: Misses Lillian Gordon, Millicent Spencer, and Messrs Bo'sun Dingley (at the piano), Midshipman Ricarde, George Howe, and Charles Wrangham. On Sunday evening the company were responsible for an excellent sacred concert, which was largely attended and thoroughly appreciated. Next week: Mr. Hodge's amateur company will repeat "Liberty Hall."

PICTUREDROME.—P., Mr. Harry Burrows; R. M., Mr. Dick Trentbath.—Last week the Six Carnations were very successful. This week the Arcadians are drawing big houses. The company includes: Misses Emeline Brown (soprano), Gracie Hanson (comedienne), Messrs. Walter Ryder (bass), Freddie Parker (comedian), Harry Hanson (comedian and banjoist), with Mr. Arthur Lonsdale as musical-director. The programme also contains a fine series of pictures.

CINEMA.—M., Mr. G. S. Ramsay.—The patrons at this house appear quite satisfied with the excellent films shown.

PERTH.

PERTH THEATRE.—P. & M., Mr. J. H. Saville; R. M., Mr. Chas. Boult.—This week (for six nights and a matinée): "The Girl in the Train," presented by Miss Isa Bowman and company, which included Frank Barclay, Hylton Ward, Gregory Scott, Besley Beltran, Tom Squire, Arnold Dean, Vera Davis, Kitty Kirwan, Peggy Phyl, Lilian Grey, Dolly Weaver, Kitty Sinego, Wynne Bronte, Nora Hardt, Gertrude Davies, Jessie Compton, Dora Graeves, Mora Mabelle, Henry Hyne, Alec Huvarth, Hubert Godfrey, Claude Farrow, Jack Callan, and Isa Bowman. Chorus and orchestra under the direction of Herbert Ivey.

EMPIRE.—This week: Mr. Bert Russell, the darky prince, as an impressionist; and pictures.

PETERBOROUGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Lieut.-Col. J. A. Winstanley; A. M., Mr. A. Lake-Fry.—This week: Mr. Philip Braham's company, "The March Hares." The company includes: Messrs. Davy Burnaby, Bernard Ansell, John Latham, the Misses Maud Aston, and Fay Lonnen and Mr. Philip Braham.

HIPPODROME. — L., Messrs. Hawkins and Frank.—This week: Rohde and Roche, in "A Strange Meeting"; May Maun, Scotch songstress; the Kents, the eccentric pair; the Welfares, "The Quakeress and the Dude"; Gladys Whitton, comedienne and dancer; Les Bon-Bons, in musical potpourri act; and pictures.

PLYMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—D., Mr. J. M. Glover; A. M., Mr. Allan Attwater.—This week (matinées, Wednesday and Saturday): Mr. Charles Frohman presents "Peter Pan." The company includes: Pauline Chase, Holman Clark, E. Spencer Geach, Jessie Winter, Gertrude Lang, Alfred Willmore, Reggie Sheffield, Edward Sillward, Agnes Glynne, Marjorie Graham, Charles Thomas, Joan Carroll, Anna Langley, Sybil Hook, George Shelton, Charles Trevor, Charles Medwin, James Prior, William Luff, James English, John Kelt, S. Spencer, A. Stevenson, W. Manning, Humphrey Warden, Florence Wells, Lily McIntyre, Gladys Jesson, Maisie Yorke, Mair Vaughan, Pauline Prim, Mabel Thomas, Moya Nugent, S. Nagle and M. Rose, W. Child, Gordon Carr, B. Rose, D. Searle, V. Pierpoint, and A. H. Kent. Next week: "Bunty Pulls The Strings."

GRAND THEATRE.—L. and M., Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—This week (twice nightly): George N. Ballanger presents the American scout, Young Buffalo, in "King of the Wild West." The company includes: Young Buffalo, Ernest A. Foster, Robert Chambers, Gus Ruhlin, F. Morgan, Arthur C. Goff, Bob Delamere, Ali Delamere, E. L. Restoff, J. Reynard, James Hudson Brownlee, Ralph Brambles, C. Shade, H. Bradshaw, Alf Mitchell, E. Brunt, Walter Hassell, Jack Williams, Albert Myatt, A. Solloway, J. Pointing, B. Ratcliffe, W. Simmonds, Lucy Burrows, Kitty Clover, and Lillian Maude. Next week: "Queen of the Redskins."

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—L., Mr. Walter de Frece; M., Mr. G. F. Thompson.—Miss Vesta Tilley, in new songs; Piquo, in trapeze act; Nolane and Snowden, historical maniacs; the Three Phydoras, in eccentric musical act; Whitmore Brothers, rag-time dancers; Wittie Wattie Walton, character comedian; Julian Mack; and Verno and Voyce, in vocal snap-shots.

PONTEFRACT.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—L., Mr. George Tankard; Mus. D., Mr. Noel Vincent.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. Montgomery and Jazon present "Cinderella." The company includes: George Norton, Ennis Parkes, the Antipons, Ryde and Beeman, Rhoda Ring, Gertie Douglas, Ethel Pascoe, Linda A. Arthur, Ethel Brailsford, and Leo Fields. Speciality by Kioto.

PONTYPRIDD.

NEW THEATRE.—Sole P., Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; M., Mr. Charles Trenchard.—This week: Wm. Greet's company in "The Sign of the Cross." The company includes: Mr. H. St. Barbe West, Mr. Charles Yorke, Mr. Bernard Elliott, Miss Dorothy Lart, Miss Madge Monte, Mr. J. Wetherall, Mr. Frank Wood, Miss Florence Bond, Miss Francis Midgley, Miss Barbara Thorne, and Messrs. Walter Fleet, Geo. W. Hulme, and R. Chapman.

LARGE TOWN HALL.—This week: Mr. F. R. Benson's company in "Othello," "King Lear," "Merchant of Venice," and "As You Like It."

LESSER TOWN HALL.—P., Mr. John G. Wood; R. M., Mr. Mason.—This week: Mr. Mat Coleman, comedian; and pictures.

WHITE PALACE.—P., The White Palaces, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Albert R. Josty.—This week: Mr. Ethelbert Stanley, elocutionist; and pictures.

PORTH.

PALACE THEATRE.—L., Mr. Will Smithson; M., Mr. J. W. Bynorth; Mus. D., Mr. Geo. Stephens—This week: Mr. Marcus Draper's company, in "The Christian." The company includes: Messrs. Marcus Draper, Campbell Fletcher, Ed. Watson, Albert Clarke, Chas. Langton, Chas. Harris, Sidney Silvester, and the Misses Barbara Wallace, Pearl Rory, Ivy Clarke, May Harris, Nellie Murray, Winifred Peters, and Mary Bronton.

PORTSMOUTH.

ROYAL.—Licensee and M., Mr. J. W. Boughton; A. M., Mr. Arthur A. Horner.—Mr. George Edwardes' company are here for the second and concluding week with "Gipsy Love"; long queues testify to its popularity and applaud nightly. Messrs. Peter A. Gawthorne (Jozsi), Norman Greene (Andor). Kagetan of Louis Bradfield, jun., Lionel Victor (Dragotin), Misses Mary Ridley (Lady Babby), Maggie Jarvis (Ilona), and Connie St. Clair (Jolan).

KING'S.—Licensee and M., Mr. J. W. Boughton; A. M., Mr. Arthur R. Hollands.—Messrs. Maskelyne and Devant's latest mystery, "The Window of the Haunted House," is a potent attraction; "A Double's Troubles," with the Brothers W. W. Potts and Chas. Potts in the principal rôles, are veritably so alike that the bride, Miss Mabel Kelly, mistakes her own husband, and long and loud is the laughter; unusually smart and dainty dancers are Williams and Segal; a novel performance of Smaragda's highly trained cats and pigeons is well received; Miss Winsome Drummond has a powerful soprano voice; Jack Barlow at the piano and organ is appreciated; Smite and Smote, eccentric comedians; Vittorio and Georgette, the upside-down boys, and the Lauray Trio, are amusing.

PRINCES.—Licensee and M., Mr. J. W. Boughton.—The drama entitled "Which Did She Love?" presented by Mrs. Frank Bateman's first-class company, is fully appreciated at the above theatre this week. Mrs. Frank Bateman, who as an actress is well known in Portsmouth, makes a charming Mary Wakefield, and Mr. Fred W. Goddard as the Rev. George Wright is an excellent hero. The rôle of Henry Fordyce, the villain of the piece, was excellently sustained by Mr. Harry Ayrsleigh. "Sapho" was announced for Friday evening instead of the above.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. George Harris.—The chief attraction here is the appearance of the celebrated actress Miss Marie Studholme in a well-acted comedy sketch, "Her Ladyship," in which she is ably supported by Messrs. Walter Pearce (Arthur Dessborough), Cecil Burt (John Bilbury), and Miss Tiny Grattan as Annie. Another sketch of unusual interest was "Canada," presented by Harry M. Vernon's company. Big Bill McCrea was powerfully sustained by Mr. Mansell Fane, Mr. Archie W. Chappell playing with ability Arthur Heel, a pretty Edith Keller being seen in Miss Peggy Kennedy. Gene Crave, the happy minstrel, is exceedingly good in song and ventriloquial patter; Anna Dorothy brought down the house with her "I don't care," succeeded by "The police woman"; Addie Adell, vocalist, the Indento Bros., Lack and Ford. Percy Clifford, and Doris May, further strengthen the programme.

EMPIRE PALACE. — M. D., Captain E. H. Warren Wright: S., Mr. W. Pratt. — Duncan's Collies, the Bouncing Dillons, the McGregors, and other strong turns go to make up a splendid all-round programme at the above. Duncan's Collies are beautiful creatures, and perform some wonderful feats; the McGregors give a grand display, with rousing xylophone selections. Fun, as usual, reigns supreme during the time the Dillons are on the stage (prizes are offered for nightly competitions); Ermakor, the giant Cossack, performs military feats with a rifle, sword, spears, &c., with extraordinary skill; "The Torch" is a beautifully staged sketch, submitted by Harold Wolfgang and company, and is fully appreciated; W. B. Raby, a mirthful comedian, and other excellent numbers are also included.

CLARENCE PIER.—M. & S., Mr. W. Cuddy.—Saturday, Feb. 8, at 3 and 7.30: Miss Margaret Buck, contralto. Mr. Charles Tree, baritone; and the String Band of the R.M.L.I.

PRESTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M., Mr. J. Alban Newton.—This week: Moreton and Heath's company in "Our Miss Gibbs." The cast includes: Messrs. Sinclair Holden, Collins Rolfe, Wilfrid Norton, Benson North, Leslie Winter, Noel Spencer, W. Forbes, Fred Bentley, L. Edwards, Chris Wren, and the Misses Kitty Hyde, Mona Glynn, Aubrey Ashton, Beatrice St. Vincent, Gladys Glynn, Dolly Townsend, Nan Pearson, Carmen Woods, Dolly Stacey, Ida Lorraine, S. Cuthbert, May Carson, Violet Tremayne, Florence Ray. Thursday matinée. Next week: "Bella Donna."

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—P., Mr. E. H. Page; R. M., Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson; A. M., Mr. Albert J. Bolton.—This week: Mr. Frank Fenton's company in "The Price of Silence." The cast includes: Messrs. Alex J. Haviland, G. Edwin Clive, Herbert Vere, Harry Colbeck, Ed. Ashworth, Castello Williams, Stephen Markley, Frank Forrest, Herbert Wright, Tom Russell, and the Misses Joan Harcourt, Amber Wyville, Phyllis Vaughan. Thursday matinée.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; R. M., Mr. Frank E. Burdett; Mus. D., Mr. Robert Peel.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Gar Kiddie's pantomime, "Little Bo-Peep." The cast includes: The Misses Gladys Clare, Marion Fern, Alicia Vernon, Lizzie Payne, Beatrice Vernon, Messrs. Harry Talbot, Harry Ugar, Albert Kail Stern, Foley and Francis, Owen and Wills, the Hammersley Troupe, the Malvern Troupe, etc. Monday and Saturday matinées.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. Edwin Bush; G. M., Mr. Alan W. Young; Mus. D., Mr. J. L. Dexter.—This week: Mark Sheridan, "one of the b'hoys"; the Aerial Budds, American trapezists; Lecardo Bros., eccentric acrobats; Stewart and Morgan, Irish vocal scena; Seven Muscatels, singers; Carl Howard, the magic muddler; Sisters Storm, vocalists; the Keppels, song-scena; and pictures. Twice nightly, and Monday matinée.

RAMSGATE.

ROYAL PALACE THEATRE.—S. L., Mr. W. J. Attack; R. M., Mr. Henry Bowman.—This week (twice nightly): The Four Brothers Leopolds, comedy acrobats; Little Nesta Verney, male impersonator; Miss Fanny Francis, comedienne; Chappell and James, in sketch, "The Fiddler's Romance"; and pictures.

RAWTENSTALL.

GRAND THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. B. Pareezer; R. M., Mr. A. L. Pareezer.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. H. M. Ashley and Campbell Goldsmid present "With Edged Tools." The company includes: Messrs. Harold Neville, Fred Emery, Murray Yorke, Max Copland, Alfred Conway, George Brough, Campbell Goldsmid, Misses Pattie Groves, Muriel Haydn, Edith Anton-Laing, and Maud Morton-Powell. T. M., H. Montague Ashley. Next week: "Hindle Wakes."

ROYAL PAVILION.—This week: Mme. All, inspirationalist medium (special matinée on Tuesday for ladies at 2.30); the Hewson Trio; and pictures.

READING.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—P. & M., Messrs. Bode and Compton.—This week (once nightly): The Reading Thespian Society presents "Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace." The company includes: Mr. Egbert E. Blackall, Mr. Frederick B. Reeves, Mr. Ronald Millar, Mr. Percy Gyles, Mr. Leslie Millar, Mrs. P. C. F. Clennell, Miss Dorothy Hill, Miss Norah Withnall, Mrs. Frank Poulton, and Mrs. Percy Gyles. Matinée, Tuesday, 2.30. Next week: "Monte Cristo."

PALACE THEATRE.—P., The Reading Palace Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Jesse Sparrow; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Leake.—This week (twice nightly): Spiegler and his quintette of vocalists and musicians; Wisper, comedy juggler; Brooks and Rivers, comedy duo; the Christie Duo, in comedy and dancing; Edna Payne, mimic; the Biltons, vaudeville artistes; Beattie Bloom, comedienne; Dorsch and Russell, in "The Musical Railroaders"; and pictures.

ROCHDALE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Norman Robinson.—This week (twice nightly): G. Carlton Wallace's company in "A Thief in the Night." Touring M., Mr. Hugh Wallace. The company includes: Mr. R. Watson, Mr. Ellis Leigh, Mr. Norman B. Cannon, Mr. Hugh Wallace, Mr. Francis James, Mr. Johnny Leoni, Mr. Algie Spalding, Mr. Henry Stanton, Mr. Arthur Moran, Mr. Bert Hedger, Mr. Phillip Crossley, Miss Irene Chalmers, Miss Elizabeth Watkins, Miss Josephine Colona, Miss Hetty Graham, Miss Kathleen Arding, and Miss May Byron. Next week: "A Waltz Dream."

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — P., The Jackson Family; M., Mr. Jas. Jackson, sen.—This week: Rexart, in juggling speciality; Reg Wentworth, comedian; Tiny Arnold, comedienne; Four Boises, in aerial act; Hanlon Brothers and company, in "The Haunted Hotel"; Arthur Page, comedian; the O'Mahonys, singers; and pictures.

PRINGLE'S EMPIRE.—S. L., Pringle's Picture Palaces, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Ralph Pringle; R. M., Mr Jas. Pringle.—This week: Arculus, in musical act; Cullen, "the Irish nightingale"; the Glenroy Troupe of Dancers, in "The 17th Lancers"; and pictures.

ROTHERHAM.

ROYAL.—P., North of England Theatres, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. F. Macnaghten; R. S., Mr. J. Dunbar; Mus. D., Mr. A. C. Harrison.—This week: Mr. James Kiddie's pantomime, "Cinderella." The company includes: Miss Queenie Mayor, Miss May Grayce, Mr. Willie Barrett, Mr. W. Kirk, Mr. S. Wesley, Mr. Leo Bliss, Miss Lily Ennis, Miss Florrie Porter, Miss Bertha Irving, Mr. Robert Payne, and Miss Bessie Willow. Specialities by the Sisters Mayor, Sylphide Troupe of lady dancers, and the Lisardo Brothers, equilibrists.

HIPPODROME.—P., Rotherham Hippodrome, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Geo. E. Smith; G. M., Mr. Claude Shayler; R. M., Mr. Wm. Pearson; Mus. D., Mr. J. Millar; R. Stage M., Mr. J. Leishman.—This week: Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy's and Mr. J. E. Cardwell's pantomime, "The House that Jack Built." The company includes: Wee Georgie Harris, Miss Evelyn Major, Mr. J. Harrison, Mr. Will Judge, Little Cluley, Darby and McLester, Miss Peggy McDonnell, Miss Gertrude Innes, Miss Gwennie Vaughan, and Miss Gertrude Richard. Orchestra under the direction of Mr. H. B. Levy.

RUGBY.

VINT'S NEW HIPPODROME AND THEATRE.—P., Mr. Leon Vint; G. M., Mr. Arthur Brogden.—This week: Derwent Hall Caine's company, in "The Manxman." The company includes: Misses Esme Lee, Florrie Hall, Dora Evans, Leta Scarlet, and Messrs. Charles Adair, Percy Wentworth, Harold Clare, Arthur B. Hamilton, Herbert Roxby, Tom Fuller, George Kara, C. B. Howe, and Chas. Brooke.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PALACE OF VARIETIES.—P., Mr. Leon Vint; G. M., Mr. Arthur Brogden.—This week: Mr. Edward Crosland's Melodymakers; Mr. Harry Morris, the one man bugle band; and pictures.

SALFORD.

PRINCE OF WALES.—P. & M., Mr. E. B. Goulden.—This week (once nightly and matinée, Wednesday, 2.30): Mr. Frank M. Thorne presents "The Woman Pays." The company includes: Mr. Will Beasley, Mr. Frederick Garratt, Mr. Victor Garnet Vayne, Mr. H. C. Lanceley, Mr. J. Fulton Millar, Mr. Charles Arthur, Mr. Arthur T. Cresswell. Mr. Dunlop Stewart, Mr. James Burns, Mr. H. W. Percival, Mr. Arthur Brownlaw, Mr. A. S. Sale, Miss Hettie Fergusson, Miss Clara Widdicombe, Miss Lilian Bales, Miss May Wright, Mrs. S. Porteous. A. M., Mr. Harold Goulden; T. M., Mr. Dunlop Stewart.

HIPPODROME. — P., Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. Henry Hearn; Mus. D., Mr. Harry Walker.—This week (twice nightly): John Tiller's pantomime, "Sinbad the Sailor." The company includes: Florrie Page, Jimmie Pullin, Olitzka Madison, Joe Dawson, Arthur Ricketts, Jack Audley, May Sharples, Laura Vane, Billy Daynes, Sidney Rennef, Tom Gott, Lily Tucker, Alice Leek, Gerty James, Aggie Bates, Angelina Casey, Dimps Bennett, Lorrian Thew, Jessie Riley, Rene Waller, Dolly Osborne. Matinées, Tuesday and Saturday, 2.30.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—M. D., Mr. W. Turner; G. M., Mr. Chas. A. Hurley; Mus. D., Mr. P. Ferri.—Twice nightly and matinées Tuesday and Saturday: Mr. Harry Burns presents his pantomime, "Dick Whittington and His Cat." The company includes: Miss Helen Charles, Mr. Joe Pauls, Miss Rosie Pink, Miss Lilian Barney, Miss N. Hindmarch, Mr. Michael Madden, Messrs. Acre and Morris, Miss Gertie Gray, Miss Winnie Taylor, Miss Rita Raymond, Miss Nina Richmond, Mr. S. Lee, Mr. Louis Le Sine, Mr. Geo. Jackley, the Twelve Rainbows. Specialities by Mr. Geo. Jackley, Mr. Louis Le Sine, Mr. Michael Madden, and Messrs. Acre and Morris.

OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. W. Turner; G. M., Mr. Chas. A. Hurley.—This week: Mr. Tom Sherlock, in illustrated songs; and pictures.

KING'S ELECTRIC THEATRE.—P., The United Electric Theatres, Ltd. (London); M., Mr. Joe Bardsley.—This week: Miss May Newall, vocalist; and pictures. Twice nightly, and matinées Monday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 2.30.

SCARBOROUGH.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. W. Peacock; M., Mr. S. H. Hawkins.—First three nights of the week: Messrs. Polini and Melford's company, in "The Silver King." The cast includes: Mr. Arthur H. Rooke, Miss Roberta Pulleyne, Mr. Alfred Terris, Little Dolly Douglass, Mr. H. Elliott-Ball. Mr. Arthur Wright, Mr. Raymond le Caudby, Mr. Fred May, Mr. Leslie Ellis. Mr. Stanley Terran, Mr. L. Ettway, Mr. J. Falkener, Mr. A. Fry, Mr. F. Rodgers, Mr. L. Pilsener, Mr. A. Baxter, Mr. P. Abutt, Mr. F. Allwood, Mr. Henry Littlejohn, Master Rodney, Mr. J. O. Smith, Mr. E. Fishor, Mr. I. V. Harte, Miss Margaret Cloud, Miss Fanny Binstead, Miss Edith Benson, Miss Ellen Foster, and Miss Marguerite Winton. Thursday (for three nights): Derwent Hall Caine, in "The Bondman." The company includes: Messrs. Arthur Oliver, Derwent Hall Caine, Miller Anderson, Gerald Nolan, David Macfarlane, J. J. Dooling, Walter Meux, Herbert Wills, Horace Roxberry, Henry Arley, and Misses Beatrice Sinclair, Dora Evans, Kate Sharel, and Dorothy Stephen.

THEATRE ROYAL CINEMA.—S. P., Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Garside; M., Messrs. E. L. Garside and Quinton Tilson.—This week: Mr. Kingsley Lark's Operatic Trio, including Miss Marie Lewis (soprano), Mr. Frederick Nilson (tenor), Mr. Kingsley Lark (bass), in selections from "Faust," "Maritana," etc.; the Glovers, vocalists and dancers; pictures.

AQUARIUM.—M. D. and S., Mr. Walter Kitchingman; Asst. M., Mr. H. Bench; Mus. D., Mr. A. Candler.—This week: Edward H. Lucas and his daughter Edna, in scenes from Dickens; Fred Shepherd, comedian; the Schillotts, in acrobatic act, "In Shadowland"; the Dancing Model le Burl; Walter Hume, tenor vocalist; Phil Bransby, comedian; the Lucas Trio in "Waiting for the Boats"; and Vernon's Bioscope.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. A. C. Harrison; M., Mr. Wallace Childs.—Commencing on Monday, two dramatic performances nightly have been introduced here, on the occasion of the visit of Messrs. Graham Woods and Archie Helsby's company, in "Send Him Victorious." The company includes: Misses Marie Robson, Chrissie Bickerstaff, Madge Palmer, and Messrs. Howard Hardy, Archie Helsby, Fred Wills, Graham Woods, James Archer, and Chas. T. Higgins.

EMPIRE.—This week: The Four Astors, American rag-time singers and dancers; and the Three Aerial Atans, Australian comedy gymnasts.

CO-OPERATIVE HALL.—L., Mr. C. Wilkinson; M., Mr. Joe Andy.—This week: Kill and Kelso, comedians and dancers; and Miss Ethel Stokes, character vocalist.

SHEERNESS.

HIPPODROME.—Sole L., Mr. B. Parcezer; R. M., Mr. George Ridley; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Hughes.—This week: Mr. Arthur Hardy presents "The Speckled Band." The company includes: Miss Enid Marshall, Miss Agnes Marey, Messrs. E. Vassall Vaughan, A. Ring, H. Ainger, Maurice Drew, James E. Horstead, George W. Barnes, Gerald Rodgers, Herbert Bradford, V. Franklin, Victor Lusk, Fred Reynolds, Geoerald Rodgers, and A. Corney Grain.

SHEFFIELD.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. John Hart; G. M. & T., Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Messrs. F. Leslie Moreton and Guyton Heath's company opened to a good house on Monday in the lively and picturesque musical comedy, "Miss Hook of Holland." Mr. Alfred Wellesley as Mr. Hook created great amusement; Mr. James Davis was a smart and agreeable young officer as Lieut. Van Coop; Miss Dorothy Temple made a graceful and vivacious Sally; Mr. Sen Holloway submitted a clever caricature of a Dutch bandmaster as Van Vuyt; and other well played characters were Miss May Moffat's Freda Voos and Miss Peggy Le Hay's Clara Voos, the charming daughters of Mme. Voos, Miss Kathleen Goslitt's Gretchen, Miss Dorothy Maude's Anette, and Miss Helene Moore's Mina. Miss Maude Ratcliffe, Miss M. Sheelah, Miss Gordon, Miss Sybil Fownes, Miss Maisie Gordon, Miss Winifred Byrne, Miss Vera Lester, Miss Kitty Owen, Miss Enad Bray, Miss Shutterer, Miss Carew Holmes, Miss Linden, and Miss Larrington were all pretty and graceful as Dutch girls. The scenery and costumes were good, and the full chorus, stage band, and orchestra were efficiently conducted by Mr. T. B. Boatwright. Next week: Mr. Martin Harvey will appear in "Œdipus Rex," etc.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. John Hart; A. M., Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Asst. M., Mr. Mahoney.—"Cinderella" continues its successful run to the accompaniment of hearty laughter and applause. The beautiful scenery and ballets are artistic and refined, and the humour and practical fun of the comedians are characterised by the wholesome fun notable in all Mr. John Hart's annuals. As Cinderella, Miss Cicely Gray has fully confirmed the opinion of the first night's audience, and her graceful acting and tuneful singing have made her a great favourite with the Royal patrons. Miss Ruth Lytton's refined and vivacious performance of the Prince continues to please, and her principal songs, "Alexander's rag-time band," and the charming lullaby song (with chorus of children), "Where is the land of I don't know?" are great favourites with all sections of the house. A charming Fairy is Miss Aimée Stewart, with her excellently rendered ballad, "Only a faded rose." Miss Doris Lind and Miss Gladys Fontaine are very amusing as the two spiteful sisters; and the Misses Violet Lindsay and Nellie Bindon have made many admirers as the piquant Rosalie and the graceful Ferdinand. Mr. Rowland Hill as the Lady Toto nightly keeps the house in roars with wholesome fun, laughable songs, and his usual quaint patter. His business with the Baron (Mr. Stephen Adeson) is in the true pantomime spirit, and the absurd badinage of these two comedians appeals to old and young alike. Mr. Stephen Adeson, like his humorous brother—Martin of that ilk—has been amusing Sheffielders for many years, and his abilities as a "gaggist" can always be relied upon. His principal ditty, "Who were you with last night?" goes with a bang, and the "Sheffield canaries" let the chorus go with stimulating unanimity. Mr. Rolando Martin is capital as the Baron's Page, and he is quite at home as comic singer, dancer, burlesque actor and pantomimist. Mr. Jack Crichton is popular as the mercurial Dandini, and his musical comedy style admirably suits the Theatre Royal atmosphere. Mr. Reginald Adair acts and sings dramatically as Father Time; Mr. Charles Taylor makes a characteristic and humorous Cabby; and the Jeames de la Pluche flunkey is represented with quite the Toole manner by an artiste unnamed. The beautiful ballets and children's dances, arranged by Mme. Elena Estelle, are still a valuable asset to a charming pantomime, and both Mr. Ivan Capell and Mr. John Hart are to be congratulated in adding another success to the long list of the Royal triumphs.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. W. D. Forsdike; A. M. & T., Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—"Mother Goose" still draws enthusiastic audiences, and Miss Madge Clifton, the handsome and lively principal boy, is a great favourite; Miss Cecil Russell is a charming picture as Mavis, the heroine, and her well-rendered songs are loudly applauded. Miss Iris Belshaw is an ideal Fairy, and she sings in a sympathetic manner. The songs and dances of the graceful Sisters Beames win deserved recognition, and the Lottie Stone ballet troupe invariably bring down the house. The comedians work well together, and Mr. Harry Rich, with his clever comic portraiture of ancient femininity in the quaint, and, in many respects, lifelike presentment of Mother Goose is undoubtedly one of the main factors in the great success of Mr. Leon Salberg's annual. Mr. Rich is well seconded by Mr. Stanley Lauri, who makes a splendid Goose. Their little scene of pathos is deservedly applauded, and both artistes deserve credit for honest artistic work. Mr. Bertram Gunnell and Mr. W. Rogers are first rate as the Minions, and their master, Baron Bugle, is played in orthodox burlesque manner by Mr. T. G. Vayne. Miss Elsie Robey as Sally Scrubbs, Mr. James Pugh as the Demon, and the other performers continue successful.

EMPIRE PALACE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. L. M. Stewart.—The Six Brothers Luck head the bill this week, and appear in their new comic absurdity, with new scenery and novel effects, "Crooks, Spooks, and Spirits," a production specially designed to provoke roars of laughter. Barton and Ashley reappear in a new farcical sketch, "Money Talks"; Miss Gwennie Llewellyn is a cultivated soprano vocalist; the Great Wieland submits his well-known and clever juggling comedy act, and other artistes are Mr. Harry Fields, in a smart mimetic entertainment; Miss Trixie Marris, a pleasing artiste; Wullie Walker, Scotch humorist and story-teller; and Thora, an original and talented ventriloquist. Mus. D., Mr. Arthur Grimmett.

HIPPODROME.—P., The Sheffield Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Frank Poole.—Miss Florrie Forde and her successful pantomime, "Bold Robin Hood," under the direction of Mr. Gilbert Payne, opened to a packed and enthusiastic house on Monday. Miss Florrie Forde appeared as the bold forester, and her entrance in the becoming costume of the part was the signal for rounds of hearty applause, renewed again and again at the end of Miss Forde's well-rendered songs. Mr. Gilbert Payne made a great hit as Sammy, and other characters were well played by Victor and Louis. Mr. Arthur Stratton, Mr. Austin Lenton, Mr. Frank Summer, Little Vi Davis and Little Amica (as the Babes). Miss Gracie Moore, Miss Rosie Wynford, and Miss Stella Esdaile, a pleasing Maid Marian. The mounting, ballets and chorus were first-rate, and Mr. Orlando Powell conducted.

MONTGOMERY HALL.—Catlin's Pierrots continue to do excellent business.

NEW CENTRAL HALL.—G. M., Mr. Fred W. Holmes.—Pictures and variety artistes are well received by large audiences.

REPERTORY THEATRE.—This new candidate for public support will open next week with high-class plays.

SMETHWICK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole P., Mr. Charles Barnard; M., Mr. James Chapman; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Hickling.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Stuart Lomath's company in "The Mill Girl and the Miner." The company includes: Mr. Stuart Lomath, Mr. R. Malcolm Strachan, Mr. Hugh Travers, Mr. Sam Roberts, Mr. Tom Armitage, Mr. Charles Trevor, Mr. Harry Emmerson, Mr. W. Myers. Mr. Reginald Page, Mr. John Strong, Mr. Tom Woods, Miss Catherine May, Miss Ellen Owen-Lomath, Miss Kitty Johnston, and Miss Connie Tremayne. Next week: "Dick Whittington."

EMPIRE THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. B. Kennedy; S., Mr. W. H. Adams; A. M., Mr. A. G. Guest.—This week: Hersleb Brothers, acrobatic comedians; the Two Weymans, the "tanglefoot twins"; Riche and Walker, rag-time boys; Ida Dorrie, character comedienne; Brothers Valmax, herculean equilibrists; Charles Elstree, entertainer, at the piano; and pictures.

BEARWOOD COLISEUM.—P., Smethwick Empire, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. B. Kennedy; S., Mr. W. H. Adams; A. M., Mr. H. Kennedy—This week: Oratorios by Miss May Rivers, and pictures.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. B. Parcezer; R. M., Mr. Julian Graham.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Geo. Bowes presents "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves." The company includes: Mr. Jack Kendrick, Miss Flo Inman, Miss Ivy Bartinelli, Mr. Colin Carlisle, Mr. Peter Pan, Mr. George Guest, Mr. Phil Inglis, Mr. J. Ebsworth, Mr. H. Alvey, Miss Minnie Dawn, Miss Dorothy Pugh Davis, Miss Rose Gandy, Miss Doris Clark, Miss Olive Mackenzie, Miss Elsie McCartney, Miss Vera Constance, Miss Verona Velda, Miss Daisey Morton, Miss Annie Long, Miss Laura Smith, Miss Dulce Duval, Miss Edith Evans, Miss Arthur Bright, Miss Jeahn D'Arc, Miss Lilian Terry, Miss Queenie Constance, Miss Violet Aubrey, Miss Kathleen Pelham, Miss Aubrey Pelham, Miss Cissie Stockton, and Misses Malvina, Madge, and Marie. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.30. Next week: "A Queen for a Wife."

THE HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. W. H. Lennon. This week: Edith Harmer, comedienne; Gerano, juggler; Andie Burns, comedian and dancer; Elsie Southgate, violinist, and Dorothy, at the Mustel organ; D'Arcy Jenner, in a comic song revue; Fregolia, protean artiste; Phil and Nettie Peters, American comedy artistes; Buck Baker, in a Western episode, "Pete, the Sheriff," assisted by Minerva Cree and Victor C. Henri; and pictures.

SOUTHAMPTON.

HIPPODROME. — M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. H. Yardley; Mus. D., Mr. James Southworth. — This week (twice nightly): The Six Rag-timers; Chas. Fanning, patter comedian; Florence and Rose Showell, duettists; Arthur Croxon, entertainer; Willie Zimmerman, in "The Battle"; the Three Laurels, in comedy acrobatic speciality; Little Max, boy phenomenon; and pictures. Matinée, Thursday, lecture, "The Balkan War."

SOUTHPORT.

OPERA HOUSE.—L. & M., Mr. Percy Hutchison; B. M., Mr. George Clarkson.—This week (once nightly): Mr. J. F. Elliston presents "The Goose with the Golden Eggs." The company includes: Miss Madge Daly, Miss Louie Carrington, Miss Sonnie Somerville, Miss Gen. Wisman, Miss F. Almina Avis, Miss Mabelle Rose, Miss Frances Wenham, Miss Isabella Tolano, Mr. Alec Godfrey, Mr. George Goodfellow, Miss Eva Godfrey, Miss Nancy Benyon, Miss Jenny Gregson, Mr. Will Pfounds, Mr. T. A. Glover, Mr. Frank E. Melville, Mr. Ireland Cutter, Miss Nellie White, Miss C. V. Adrienne, Morton Comedy Duo, Miss Edith Rolfe, Mr. George Hudson, Miss De Monte, Miss Nellie Black, Miss Ella Mavelle, Miss Sophie Kingsmill, Miss Norah Darrah, Miss Claire Revell, and Miss Molly Desmond. T. M., Mr. Leonard Dalrymple. Matinée, Saturday, at 2 p.m. Next week: The D'Oyly Carte Opera company.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—L. & D., Mr. W. Simpson Cross, F.Z.S.—This week (twice nightly): Sid Bedford and company, in farcical comedy, "The Second Mrs. Chester"; Ted Hopkins, Welsh comedian; Brez, tramp vocalist; the Woelhaffs, vaudeville artistes; the Balmorals, in musical comedy; Jack Walker, comedian and dancer; Paul Kramere, vocalist; Victor Brothers, balancers; and pictures.

PIER PAVILION.—L., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. Eric Longden.—This week (twice nightly): Miss Mary Mayfren's company present "The Yellow Fang"; Miss Irene Briton; Lilian Carter, soprano; Blake and Granby, comedy artistes; Mann and Franks, vocal comedy artistes; Walter Saxby, comedian; Dev Delmar, comedian; La Freya, in artistic visions; and pictures.

SOUTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. John W. Coulson; Mus. D., Mr. Joseph Hopper.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company in "The Prairie Outlaw." T. M., Mr. Ernest Vaughan. The company includes: Mr. William Melvyn, Mr. Ernest Vaughan, Mr. Gerald Shirley, Mr. John Croudon, Mr. J. Russell Bogue, Mr. Cyril Dundas, Mr. Fred Newburn, Great Star, Mr. J. Jones, Running Elk, Mr. Frank Wallace, Miss Nellie Wood, Master Addison, and Miss Madge Douglas. Next week: "Aladdin."

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Richd. Thornton; G. M., Mr. Frank Allen; R. M., Mr. Edwin Winter.—This week: Mr. Geo. Black's pantomime, "Dick Whittington." The company includes Miss Isa Gibson, Mr. Sam Fay, Mr. Jack Conan, Mr. Dan Rodney, Miss Gertrude Gaye, Miss Daisy Gaye, Mr. Tom Ross, Mr. Fred Ross, Miss Jean King, Miss Kitty Rhoades, Miss Maise Grey, and Miss Freda Danilo. Mus. D., Mr. Jos. Campbell.

GRAND ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Bainton.—This week: Nesta, comedy juggler; Annette Campbell, soprano vocalist; and pictures.

KING'S PICTURES.—M., Mr. Morris G. Elsy.—This week: Mornin Knox, ventriloquist; and pictures.

SPENNYMOOR.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—L., Messrs. Alf Burrows and Thos. Drewett; M., Mr. Burrows.—This week: Mr. Bulmer's company, in "The Girl Who Went Astray." The company includes: Messrs. J. Worth, Edward Morton, Evan Roland, Reg Oldroyd, R. Ashton, and Misses Doris Brookes, Maud Steeple, Nancy Newell, and Sybil Haughton.

ARCADIA.—P., Mr. R. F. Gowland; M., Mr. H. E. Feather.—This week: Four Powers, Snow Queen, James Stockton, Chinko, Esna Baxter, and Rall and Tando.

STACKSTEADS.

OLYMPIA PICTUREDROME.—L., Messrs. J. T. Cook and Co.; M., Mr. J. H. Pollard.—This week: Hall and Lal, ventriloquists; Mr. Wood-Milne, in pot-pourri act; Miss Florence Guest, vocalist; Vo Tonica, in duets, etc.; and pictures.

STAFFORD.

PLAYHOUSE.—L. & M., Mrs. Evelyn Thomas.—This week: Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lyndon's company, in "The Pet of the Ranch." Company includes: Messrs. Algernon Hicks, Geo. Flood, Edgar Morgan, Chas. D. Pitt, Harry Lyndon, Harold Bell, Frank Guest, W. Noble, Little Oayuse, Lone Star, the Misses Marjorie Seymour, Grace Jones, Edie Macklin, and Iza Lyndon. Next week: "The Quaker Girl" (three nights) and "The Manxman."

STANLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., The Stanley Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Mark H. Lindon; Mus. D., Mr. J. F. Macdonald.—This week: Mr. S. R. Squires presents "Leah Kleschna." The company includes: Messrs. William Clayton, Jack Harris, H. Bonote Wilson, Gerton Ashard, Charles Paige Lawrence, William Scriven, Tom McCaffrey, Frank Darley, Ralph Ingilby, and Misses Fannie Rogers, Ada Tinsley, Marie Florence, Bertha Spofforth, Nan Appleton, and Emmie Clayton.

ST. HELENS.

THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—P., St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. McLeod Loader; Asst. M., Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—This week: Mr. Richard Nightingale presents "Dick Whittington." The company includes: Miss Dolly Ross, Miss Gladys Henderson, Jimmy Goode, Bob Stevens, Billy Fander, Tew and Lea, Barbendo, Fred Preston, Miss Lilian Devon, and Miss Nellie Mascott.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; A. M., Mr. Leo Weisker. — This week: Mr. Fred W. Carpenter presents "Jack and the Beanstalk." The company includes: Misses Daisy Verne and Gracie Matheson, Sisters Hula, Dorothy Foster, Pannett and Neden, Mr. Jack Haddon, Mr. Sid Crossley, Mr. Montague Biggs, and Mr. Fred Eugene, the Four Clifton Belles.

STOCKPORT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and M., Mr. Charles Revill; A. M., Mr. Wm. Revill.—This week: Mr. Edwin T. Heys presents "Hindle Wakes." The company includes: Mr. Norman Clark, Miss Cecile E. Anson, Miss Helena Walbran, Mr. Ernest E. Imeson, Miss Kate Osborne, Mr. Stephen Wentworth, Mr. John Cecil, Miss Madge Trenchard, and Miss Margaret Beck.

STOCKTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Mr. John Batty; M., Mr. Walter Batty.—This week: (twice nightly): Mr. George A. De Gray and Mr. Harry Masterman present "The Indian Scout." The company includes: Geo. A. De Gray, Max Coutts, Robert Hall, Tyrone Power, Reginald J. Turner, Dick Crosby, Seymour Perry, Bert Carlton, Jack Soderick, Gerald Connor, Leopard Douglas, Miss Kitty Fizgerald, Miss Doris Brereton, Miss Etta Turner, Miss Violet Ingram. T. M., Mr. Geo. A. De Gray.

HIPPODROME.—L. & G. M., Mr. Harry Burns. R. M., Mr. G. V. Stainton.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Harry Russell's "Cinderella." The company includes: Miss D. Milton, Mr. Ernest Ridgewell, Miss Madge Allan, Miss Topsy Johnson, Mr. Colin Bryce, Mr. Fred Young, Miss Jesse Jess, Mr. Harry Russell, Miss Lily Leighton, Miss Ruby Leighton, Mr. Stanley Warden, Mr. Hazell Jefferies, Miss Lillian Errol. M., Mr. Colin Bryce. Matinée, Thursday, at 2.30.

STOKE-ON-TRENT.

THE HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; M., Mr. William Berson.—This week: Leonard Mortimer and Co., in "Billy"; Clarke and Mostol, comedians; Dan Booker, light comedian; Peggy Wyse, rag-time dancer; Paul Bonar, vocalist; Dowland and Joy, in comedy act, "The Enemy"; the Three Osrams, dancers. Also billed are Norman Thompson and Beattie Sinclair.

SUNDERLAND.

KING'S THEATRE.—L. and M., Mr. S. F. Davidson; G. M., Mr. Lloyd Townrow; T., Mr. L. Crawford Orr.—Mr. J. Chas. Imeson's pantomime, "Aladdin," is being presented at this house this week before crowded houses. The scenery and dresses are of the highest order, and the company is a strong one. In the title-rôle Miss Florence Imeson is all that could be desired. Her acting is most captivating and her vocalism a feature of the performance. Miss Nellie Dale is a charming Princess So-Shi, and is a great favourite with her prettily rendered songs. Miss Lola Patey gives a Dutch study that at once stamps her an artiste and also ranks among the music makers. In Mr. Edward Lewis is found a Widow Twankey that could not possibly be improved upon, his clever conversation and singing keeping the audience in a constant roar of laughter. Regan and Ryan as two Chinese detectives are also the cause of much merriment with some really funny business. Mr. Arthur Poole is capital as Abanazar; and more good work also comes from Messrs. J. C. Fagan and Will Percival as Pi-Krust and the Grand Vizier, and Misses May and Cissy Iris as Chee-Ki and Pekoe. Other valuable inclusions are the Twelve Mimosa Girls and the Eight Russell Girls.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. Richard Thornton; B. M., Mr. Chas. Boulton.—Messrs. Leonard and French's company are presenting the drama "The Girl of My Heart" before appreciative audiences. Miss G. Hastings Walton is the principal lady, and gives an excellent rendering of Mary Graham; Mr. Herbert Leonard submits a masterly performance of Will Stewart; villainy is ably portrayed by Mr. George Arthur as Major Alfred Fulton and Mr. Fred Vaughan as Peter Scragg. The humour is cleverly handled by Miss Laura Dyson (Sarah Bradley), Mr. T. Claxton-Turner (Ben Lankey), and Mr. Edward Curtis (Joshua Bradley).

EMPIRE THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. Richard Thornton; G. M., Mr. Harry Esden.—A capital programme is being headed here by John Terry and Mabel Lambert, who are scoring heavily with some exceptionally clever characterisations; the Nine Dainty Dots appear in a pleasing song-scena, "The Gypsies' Revels"; the Jacksons are warmly applauded for a daring cycling display; the comedy acrobatic act given by Hayes and Merritt is keenly enjoyed; a high-class musical turn is contributed by the Six Donovans; the Two Boyds (pianists), Edie King (comedienne), and George D'Albert all give excellent turns on their own lines; and Mrs. Graeme Goring and company present an amusing sketch, "Heid o' the Hoose," with great success.

AVENUE THEATRE.—P., Mr. Richard Thornton; B. M., Mr. J. Clement Padden.—The playlet entitled "Honour Bright," presented by Mr. and Mrs. John B. Shinton and company, is proving a great draw here, and is excellently presented. Lewis and Lankey, Hebrew comedians, keep their audience in a good humour; and Abey and Wyn are also good in a humorous sketch.

PALACE THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. A. G. Hamilton.—A most entertaining item is found in Chas. Baron's burlesque menagerie here; the Dorinos ecore in a dancing act; and Les Videos, including Leonie, give a marvellous display on wheels.

SWANSEA.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. Wm. Coutts; G. M., Mr. Hal Cummings; A. M., Mr. C. McNamara; Mus. D., Mr. Williams.—This week: "The Sins of the Rich." Company includes: Mr. Edwin Keene, Mr. John Johnston, Mr. Philip Layton, Mr. Ralph Jessel, Mr. W. H. D. Brown, Miss Isabel Singleton, Miss Winifred Rutland, Miss Annie Morgan, Miss Mattie Everett, Miss Cecile Rene, Miss E. Crowther, Mr. Ernest R. Abbott, and Miss Ada Abbott. Next week: "Love—and What Then?"

GRAND THEATRE.—Sole P., Messrs. David Allen and Sons, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. T. Byrne; Mus. D., Mr. W. F. Hulley.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Dance presents "The Quaker Girl." The company includes: Mr. Hugh Weybrance, Mr. J. W. Hooper, Mr. William Ogle, Mr. Cyril Dane, Mr. Gerald Wynne, Mr. Arthur Mann, Mr. Arthur Hayter, Mr. Henry Dench, Mr. John T. McCallum, Miss Maud Denny, Miss Lily Alaine, Miss Elsie Wallace, Miss Olga Morra, Miss May Leslie, Miss Kathleen Haddon, Miss Madge Robertson, Miss Dolly Mercer, Miss Jessie Allen, Miss L. Anderson, Miss Gloria Egmont, and Miss Sybil Coulthurst. T. M., Mr. Henry Howard. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30. Next week: "The Dollar Princess" and "The Merry Widow."

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allan; A. M., Mr. Geo. H. Richardson.—This week (twice nightly): The American Ragtime Octette; Marie Goodwin, comedienne; Will Hay, comedian; Piccad Troupe, acrobats; Millie Payne, queen of low comedy; Campbell and Barber, comedy cyclists; Wilfred Burnand, character impersonator; Five Symphony Girls; pictures.

TORQUAY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and M. D., Mr. W. H. Mortimer; S., Mr. Arthur Pearse.—On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, Mr. Forbes-Robertson and Miss Gertrude Elliott present "The Light that Failed," "Mice and Men," and "The Passing of the Third Floor Back." On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday: Mr. Cyril Maude's company in "Bunty Pulls the Strings."

ELECTRIC THEATRE. — M., Mr. Courtney Crocker.—This week: The Musical Bentleys; and pictures.

PAVILION.—P., The Torquay Town Council; M., Mr. Austin M. Wilshere.—This week: Mr. Hamilton Harris and Lorna and Toots Pounds are engaged for this week to supplement the Municipal Orchestra.

TREHERBERT.

PALACE.—M. D., Mr. C. W. Poole; R. M., Mr. W. A. Totten.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Wright Aitken, Mr. George Stanley, Miss Beryl Fernandez, and Miss Una Linley, in "The Battle of Life"; St. Just and Van Dalle, in "Sweethearts Still"; Harry Halsey, "Curtains"; and pictures.—Matinées, Tuesday, at 11 a.m., Saturday at 3 p.m.

WAKEFIELD.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., Sherwood and Co.—This week (twice nightly): Geo. Black's production, "Cinderella." T. M., Mr. Cyril Smith. The company includes: Miss Kitty Upton, Miss Gertie Rex, Miss Annie Cohen, Miss Daisy Melbourne, Mr. Percy Johnson, Mr. Stanley Vandyke, Mr. Bert Earle, Mr. Jack Melville, Mr. H. White, Mr. Horace Horner, Messrs. Firth and Forth, and Miss May Gibson. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

EMPIRE.—P., Sherwood and Co.—This week (twice nightly): Harry Foxwell's drama, "The Gambler." The company includes: Scott Leighton, Dane Clarke, Leonard S. Harrison, Frank H. St. Clair, Frank Caffrey,

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FILM GOSSIP.

"The Triangle."

Released by the Selig Polyscope Company on Feb. 20. "The Triangle" is a vivid story of human interest, based on the problem of the eternal three. Written and produced by Colin Campbell, and excellently acted, it is an impressive recital of a fine woman's terrible mistake—a mistake that darkens her life—a mistake caused by her listening to what she deems to be the call of duty. Young, inexperienced, and impressionable, and following the wishes of others, she unfortunately marries a man who is void equally of honour and principle. Later she awakens to a realisation that the man who has really loved her from her girlhood days is the one she loves above all others. She finds out that her husband, hidden behind a mask of so-called social respectability, is in reality a drunkard, a profligate, an associate of thieves; and he later becomes a fugitive from justice. True to her marriage vows, however, she smothers her own shame and is loyal to him until Fate removes him from her life. Her goodness and faithfulness are eventually rewarded, and her first sweetheart comes into his own. 1,210ft.

"Miss Nelly's Marriage."

This is a very funny comedy, released by the Gaumont Company, on Feb. 13. John Morgan, a keen supporter of the "Entente Cordiale," divides his fortune between his niece, Nelly Palmer, London, and his godson, Roger Lecadran, Paris, on condition that they marry each other. Miss Nelly, with a true British instinct of arranging her own affairs, decides to find out for herself whether Roger is "worth while," and she pays a visit to the latter disguised as her brother Jack. Her masquerade naturally leads to embarrassing situations, and at 3 a.m. in a gay café she escapes from the clutches of a persistent damsel and arrives at the firm conclusion that she will not marry such a gay spark as Roger. On leaving the café Roger regains something of Nelly's esteem by rescuing a little dog from the ill-treatment of some roughs, and the two "boys" then drive home. The dog's jumps of joy, however, disarrange Miss Nelly's wig, and her golden tresses tumble down upon her shoulders, revealing to the astonished Roger the unsuspected beauty of his companion. He soon repents of his bachelor resolutions and exerts himself to win Nelly's favour. When Nelly's mother arrives next day in search of her wayward daughter, she is pleased, if somewhat scandalised, at the escapade, to learn that it has ended in an engagement. 820ft.

Leicester Picture Theatres.

At the Picture House "The dynamiters" (Selig), "For professional services," "The good-for-nothing," "Dupin in search of quiet," "The proof of the pudding," "Copper mines at Bingham, Utah," and "On the mountain of St. Gothard" are included in an interesting programme.

Mr. Stoll presents one of the best programmes ever seen in Leicester at the Floral Hall Picture Theatre this week, including "The mystery of the seven o'clock express," "The grim claims of war," "When persistency and obstinacy meet," "The mother of the ranch," "For professional services," and "Animal studies."

At the Grand Electric Palace the usual up-to-date programme is being shown, the most prominent films being "The dynamiters" (Selig), "The good-for-nothing," "When mercy tempers justice," "In the furnace fire," and "All for Jim," etc.

The Stolen Treaty

is an excellent Nordisk film in three parts, which is being shown at the Ordsall Theatre, Salford, this week. Two Continental Kings enter into a secret treaty, the contents of which are sought by another Government, who employ a certain Count Huitz to obtain a copy of it. Captain Brassow is entrusted with its safe delivery, and has it sewn in his coat sleeve by his man, John. Missing their train at the station, they are offered a lift in a motor by a tool of Count Huitz, which they accept. They are afterwards drugged, the treaty copied, and they are left on the road. The thief goes to the nearest telegraph office and wires to his chief saying he has succeeded in his mission, and is waiting for orders at a certain inn. The captain and John manage to stop the message and proceed to the inn, the thief, however escaping. The second part opens with the thief delivering the now obliterated copy to the Count, and we afterwards see the copy being handed over to the enemy. Another attempt is made by a lady agent of Count Huitz to steal the treaty, but this also fails, being frustrated by the man, John. Other good pictures screened are "A child's remorse" (A.B.) and "The mysterious beggar" (Comica).

"In Freedom's Cause."

This exciting and admirably pictured film—an episode of the American War of Independence—is to be released on Wednesday, Feb. 12, by Pathé Freres, Ltd. Varley, an American scout, is speeding on his way to General Washington with an important dispatch. The man is almost dropping with fatigue, and, to add to his distress, he is seen and pursued by a detachment of British soldiers. Despite his fatigue, he keeps a clear brain, and eventually eludes the English, subsequently taking refuge in a small house, where a young girl gives him succour. The English, however, also reach the house, and on entering it decide to make it their headquarters for the time being. Previously to their appearance the girl conceals the scout, who, now too much exhausted to think of continuing his journey, begs her to carry the dispatch to Washington. The task set the girl is a hard one, but with courage and diplomacy she carries it through. Making the English drunk, she secures one of their uniforms, and by clothing herself in it passes out of the house without awakening suspicion. Then she makes for the headquarters of the American army, and eventually reaches them on a trusty horse. The dispatch contains the information that Washington can attack the English with advantage. Acting upon this news, he crosses the Delaware that night, and on the morrow meets the English at Trenton. 949ft.

"The Diary of a Duckling."

Delightful humour and quaint situations are features of this remarkable nature study, released by Kineto, Ltd., on Feb. 27. The following is the synopsis:—(1) The Duckling's Birthplace. Among the reedy shallows of the Norfolk Broads the egg was collected which eventually gave birth to the duckling whose diary forms the subject of this film. A punt is being slowly propelled amongst the reeds; this is an excellent study of the famous Broads. (2) "I am reared with many others for sportsmen to kill." Here are seen a large number of ducklings, mere balls of fluff, feeding in a special enclosure. (3) "I am bought as a pet and find a new home." This unusual occurrence has an important effect on the destiny of the duckling. The sportsman's gun has been robbed of its prey and a new world opens out before the feathered diarist. (4) "I discover mud." With what joy the duckling splashes and plunges in a puddle of dirty water can only be realised on seeing the actual picture on the screen. (5) "My first worm." The duckling only secured a partial victory in its encounter with its first worm. The wriggly one was successful in retaining half its original length in the conflict, and safely retreated with the same to its earthy fortress. (6) "My first experience of water." This is afforded by a delightful splash in a tin bath. (7) "My future husband." The duckling is here seen in company with a drake. Some amusing pictures follow showing the bird's toilet, which is carried out in the pond. (8) Worm hunting from the duckling's point of view, and from that of the worm, provides some remarkable scenes. A photograph taken beneath the surface of the water shows the duck actually capturing a worm. (9) Disagreements between the duckling and pigeons and fowls afford some very laughable scenes. The duck is quite able to hold its own against all comers and seems to give a young bantam a severe trouncing. 500ft.

In compliance with the requests of many patrons, the times of the presentation of "The Miracle" lyricscope play, with its orchestral and choral accompaniment, have been changed at the Picture House, 165, Oxford-street. "The Miracle" is now being given each week-day at 2.30, 6, and 8.30.

FILMS OF THE MOMENT.

RELEASE DATES.

KINETO, LIMITED.

Aquatic Sports in Norway, 370ft.	Feb. 8
How He Keeps Fit, 275ft.	Feb. 13
Norwegian Young Horses, 255ft.	Feb. 15
Reindeer Hunting in Norway, 275ft.	Feb. 15
A White Man's Way, 1,020ft.	Feb. 20
The Diary of the Duckling, 500ft.	Feb. 27
Fancy Swimming, 260ft.	Mar. 1
Crossing the North Sea, 325ft.	Mar. 1

THE AMERICAN CO.

Nell of the Pampas, 1,000ft.	Feb. 8
The Daughters of Senor Lopaz, 1,000ft.	Feb. 12
Saving the Innocents, 377ft.	Feb. 12
The Power of Love, 1,000ft.	Feb. 15
Mrs. Brown's Baby, 610ft.	Feb. 15
The Girl of the Manor, 965ft.	Feb. 19
The Recognition, 1,000ft.	Feb. 22
The Loneliness of Neglect, 1,000ft.	Feb. 22
Another Man's Wife, 992ft.	Feb. 26
Love and the Law, 1,000ft.	Mar. 1
Blackened Hills, 994ft.	Mar. 1
The Fraud that Failed, 995ft.	Mar. 5
The Trail of Cards, 992ft.	Mar. 8
Their Masterpiece, 992ft.	Mar. 8

EDISON FILMS.

A Queen for a Day, 1,000ft.	Feb. 8
Saving the Game, 600ft.	Feb. 8
Linked Together, 500ft.	Feb. 8
A Dollar Saved is a Dollar Earned, 990ft.	Feb. 12
A Thrilling Rescue by "Uncle Mun," 1,000ft.	Feb. 12
The Foundling, 1,000ft.	Feb. 15
Salt Lake City, Utah, U.S.A., and its Surroundings, 500ft.	Feb. 15
Sally Ann's Strategy, 675ft.	Feb. 15
Tim, 960ft.	Feb. 19
A Doctor for an Hour, 1,000ft.	Feb. 19

PATHE FRERES.

Kitty's Little Love Affair, 792ft.	Feb. 8
The Masquerader, 461ft.	Feb. 8
A Basque Wedding, 481ft.	Feb. 8
The Maros, 502ft.	Feb. 8
Poverty's Thrall, 1,948ft.	Feb. 8
The Stickleback, 374ft.	Feb. 8
A Woman of Impulse, 1,276ft.	Feb. 12
In Freedom's Cause, 949ft.	Feb. 12
Saragossa: The City with a Glorious Past, 276ft.	Feb. 12
Cupid and the Cat, 655ft.	Feb. 12
An Artist's Nightmare, 684ft.	Feb. 12
A Lodging for the Night, 378ft.	Feb. 12
Wiffles at the Front, 1,108ft.	Feb. 12

PATHE'S ANIMATED GAZETTE.

For Love is Life, 3,156ft.	Feb. 22

GAUMONT CO.

The Red Cross Nurse, 1,300ft.	Feb. 9
Exotic Fish, 310ft.	Feb. 9
When Hearts are Trumps, 1,000ft.	Feb. 9
The Tireless Trombonist, 800ft.	Feb. 9
For Her Husband's Sake, 1,010ft.	Feb. 13
A Tempest in the Bay of Biscay, 270ft.	Feb. 13
A Passing Cloud, 800ft.	Feb. 13
On the Mountain of St. Gothard (Series III.) From Airolo to Andermatt, 315ft.	Feb. 13
Miss Nelly's Marriage, 820ft.	Feb. 13
The Death of Lucrece, 1,120ft.	Feb. 16
The Problems of Aviation, 266ft.	Feb. 16
The Copper's Revenge, 880ft.	Feb. 16
Ascending Mont Blanc, 370ft.	Feb. 16
Incognito, 560ft.	Feb. 16

URBANORA CO.

A Noble Endeavour, 690ft.	Feb. 12
The Bridge Fiend's Dispute, 425ft.	Feb. 12
The Farmer's Secret, 730ft.	Feb. 12
From St. Claude to Morez, 365ft.	Feb. 12

SELIG POLYSCOPE CO.

The Smouldering Spark, 1,500ft.	Feb. 9
Old Songs and Old Memories, 872ft.	Feb. 9
Wrongfully Accused, 1,012ft.	Feb. 13
Mike's Brainstorm, 920ft.	Feb. 13
A Man among Men, 1,000ft.	Feb. 13
The Firefighter's Love, 1,005ft.	Feb. 16
Atala, 1,000ft.	Feb. 16
The Triangle, 1,210ft.	Feb. 20
The Hobo's Rest Cure, 992ft.	Feb. 20
Roped In, 1,005ft.	Feb. 20
Friends in San Rosario, 707ft.	Feb. 23
A Question of Hair, 595ft.	Feb. 23
John Colter's Escape, 502ft.	Feb. 23
The Mantle of Red Evans, 1,005ft.	Feb. 23

WESTERN IMPORT CO.

A Wireless Miracle, 1,008ft.	Feb. 8
The Merchant of Venice, 2,000ft.	Feb. 8
A Redeemed Reputation, 1,012ft.	Feb. 8
The Tree Imp, 1,000ft.	Feb. 12
Trials of Faith, 999ft.	Feb. 12
The Guilty Baby, 1,000ft.	Feb. 12
Rare Specimens, 500ft.	Feb. 12
A Woman Alone, 1,000ft.	Feb. 15
For the Mikado, 1,000ft.	Feb. 15
The Arab's Bride, 1,000ft.	Feb. 15
A Brother's Requital, 975ft.	Feb. 19
Weary's Revenge, 990ft.	Feb. 19
At the Foot of the Ladder, 1,000ft.	Feb. 19
Two Souls, 1,000ft.	Feb. 19

HEPWORTH CO.

At the Foot of the Scaffold, 1,925ft.	Feb. 9
A Sticky Affair, 475ft.	Feb. 13
Hawkeye has to Hurry, 500ft.	Feb. 16
Winning his Stripes, 875ft.	Feb. 20
Love and a Burglar, 650ft.	Feb. 20
Sally in our Alley, 900ft.	Feb. 23
The Prodigal's Return, 875ft.	Feb. 27
Pass It On, 550ft.	Feb. 27

J. FRANK BROCKLISS, LTD.

The Ranger's Girls, 1,033ft.	Feb. 8
Corfu and District, 355ft.	Feb. 8
Curing Hubby, 425ft.	Feb. 9
The Old Sweetheart, 935ft.	Feb. 9
Love and Craftiness, 460ft.	Feb. 9
The Bridal Room, 958ft.	Feb. 13
The Shades of the Creditors, 1,103ft.	Feb. 13

M. P. SALES AGENCY.

A.B.

A Cry for Help, 1,000ft.	Feb. 23
My Hero, 1,007ft.	Feb. 20
As the Bells Rang Out, 457ft.	Feb. 23
When We Were in Our Teens, 475ft.	Feb. 20
Taming a Husband, 986ft.	Feb. 20

EMPIRE.

Trout Fishing in New Zealand, 350ft.	Feb. 23

CABOT.

The High Ters Valley, 431ft.	Feb. 20

KALEM.

The Finger of Suspicion, 1,000ft.	Feb. 23
The Mummy and the Cowpunchers, 560ft.	Feb. 23
The Mayor's Crusade, 985ft.	Feb. 23
Pulque, Pete, and the Opera Troupe, 455ft.	Feb. 20
A Daughter's Sacrifice, 1,005ft.	Feb. 20
Rush Hours, N.Y., 545ft.	Feb. 20

WELT.

The Bay of Cattaro, 311ft.	Feb. 23

DUSKES.

Comic Film Journal, No. 6.,	Feb. 9

B. AND C.

From Cowardice to Honour, 1,377ft.	Feb. 23

GELEBERT.

Excursion to Aram Pruma Castle, 436ft.	Feb. 20

LUBIN.

The Power of Silence, 1,936ft.	Mar. 2
Home, Sweet Home, 1,062ft.	Feb. 23
Two Boys, 1,004ft.	Feb. 23
Nora the Cook, 689ft.	Feb. 23
A Mother's Strategy, 1,014ft.	Feb. 20
A Guilty Conscience, 165ft.	Feb. 20
The Love Token, 1,008ft.	Feb. 20
Palmetto Hat Industry, 345ft.	Feb. 20

H. AND B.

Norwich, 410ft.	Feb. 23

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The weekly meeting of the London County Council was held on Tuesday at the County Hall, Spring Gardens, Lord Cheylesmore (chairman) presiding.

QUARTERLY REPORT.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee presented their quarterly report as to the action taken under the Cinematograph Act. They accordingly submitted a statement as follows of the action taken during the quarter ended Dec. 31 last:—

Premises in respect of which licences lapsed and were not renewed	16
Licences granted	27
Transfer of licences granted	18
Premises in respect of which notices were received of occasional exhibitions in premises not licensed under the Cinematograph Act, 1909	24
Number of exhibitions in respect of which such notices were received	41

The Committee reported that:

EXPLOSIVES.

During the quarter ended Dec. 31, 1912, explosives and dangerous substances were found to be in use in licensed premises on forty-six occasions. In the majority of cases only very small quantities were in use, and only the amount actually required for one performance was kept on the premises.

INSPECTION.

During the quarter ended Dec. 31, 1912, two inspections were made of licensed premises in connection with complaints as to the character of the performances and the conduct of the premises and two for the purpose of ascertaining if the Council's regulations with regard to Sunday entertainments were complied with. Three inspections were made of unlicensed premises to ascertain whether entertainments requiring a licence were given thereat. The total expenditure incurred in connection with the seven inspections amounted to £8 14s. 9d.

The reception of this paragraph being opposed, its consideration was postponed

NEW CINEMATOGRAPH HALL AT STEPNEY.

An application, accompanied by drawings (submitted by Messrs. Hood Bros.), for a certificate in respect of a cinematograph hall proposed to be erected at 195 to 199, Commercial-road, had been received, it also being intended to apply for a music licence. The Theatres Committee recommended the Council to grant the certificate upon the usual terms.

THE OXFORD.

The Theatres Committee reported that they had considered drawings submitted by Messrs. Wylson and Long, showing alterations proposed to be made to the Oxford Music Hall. The alterations consist chiefly of the provision of lobbies and doorways at each end of the existing screen to the stalls saloon, and the rearrangement and extension of the seating accommodation at the back of the first circle, involving the removal of the bar from the back of the tier to the foyer on the prompt side of the tier. Subject to certain conditions being complied with, there would appear to be no objection to the proposed arrangements, and the Committee recommended accordingly.

Agreed to.

TRANSFER OF LICENCES.

On the recommendation of the Theatres Committee, the following transfers were approved:

The licence for music and dancing for the Camberwell Empire, granted Nov. 29, 1912, to Cissie Lawson, transferred to Oscar Berry.

The licence for music for the Highbury Imperial Picture Palace, granted on the same date, to Baroness Marie Melanie Grothe Neuburg, transferred to Richard Harris.

Lichfield Shrovetide Fair.

One of the earliest of the Midland fairs is that of Lichfield, and probably by reason of the fixture being regarded as a starting-point there is usually a goodly attendance of attractions under the control of Mr. Patrick Collins, the lessee. Apart from this aspect of the event the fair is remarkable for its old-world proclamation by the Mayor, Sheriff, and civic authorities, and this was done on Tuesday with the usual formalities and declarations of the "Oyez! Oyez!" of the City Crier, much to the delight and interest of visitors, citizens, and the profession, whose various attractions filled the market square. The following were present:—P. Collins' scenic railway and four-abreast gallopers, Hickman's school of boxers, and side-shows, novelty frames, football penalties, throwing games, shooting saloons, hoop-la circles and squares, coker sheets and stalls by Messrs. Lindon, Humphries, Mullett, Beech, Perks, Roberts, Hampton, and other caterers.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

SUNDAY OPENING IN MIDDLESEX.

The question of the Sunday opening of picture theatres in the County of Middlesex formed the subject of discussion at a meeting of proprietors of cinema theatres in the Middlesex area at the Electric Coliseum, Green Lanes, Harringay, on Wednesday last. The meeting was specially convened in view of the opposition to Sunday opening which has been shown by members of the Middlesex County Council, and as the result of the discussion it was decided to inaugurate a campaign in favour of Sunday opening, during the period from now till the County Council elections in March.

Mr. J. Trevor, who presided, said he was of opinion that unless some agitation were taken in hand all the picture theatres in the County of Middlesex would be closed on Sundays. In view of the approaching County Council elections, they ought to unite and use their influence at the elections. There were many reasons why picture theatres should be open on Sundays. In some cases the closing of picture theatres might mean a very serious loss to proprietors. If they were closed people would simply walk into the London County Council area and visit the theatres in that district, and the result might be that they might prefer the London theatres, and patronise them on week-days as well. Since the opening of picture theatres the number of people frequenting public houses on Sundays had fallen off considerably, and he believed that if picture theatres were to be closed on Sundays the effect would be to drive people into the public houses. He really thought that proprietors and others interested in those theatres had been far too apathetic in this movement. It would not do to merely grumble amongst themselves; they must act and act now before the elections. He considered that they ought to find out whether the County Council candidates were in favour of Sunday opening or not, and that they should oppose those who were not in favour of it. There might be in the County of Middlesex one or two districts that were not in favour of opening, but the minority must not govern the majority. If they were to take a referendum of the voters in Middlesex he believed there would be a huge majority in favour of Sunday opening. (Applause.) He pointed out the value of the cinematograph theatre from the educational point of view, and remarked that all the pictures shown on Sundays were carefully selected. He was sure they would all be prepared to submit to an official censorship in that respect. In fact, he did not think there had been any justified complaint during the whole time that cinema theatres had been opened on Sundays. No doubt they had all read the speech of Sir George Alexander in opening the New Gallery Cinema in Regent-street. There was a time when Sir George was not in favour of Sunday opening, but he was a very broad-minded gentleman, and in his remarks he said that he was in favour of Sunday opening, and added that, owing to the temperament of the English public there was no fear of it leading to what was called the "Continental Sabbath." (Applause.) The picture galleries and museums which were open on Sundays could not hold the tenth part of the people who sought relaxation on Sundays, and if the picture theatres were to be closed on Sundays, why should not picture galleries and museums also be closed, and even the tramcars stopped? (Applause.)

Mr. Gavazzi King, Secretary to the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association of Great Britain and Ireland, said the Exhibitors' Association had been very deeply interested on behalf of its members in this question for a considerable time. Their efforts had been directed to London, where Sunday opening had been in existence for such a long period, and which had been recently threatened. It was threatened more because there was and still would be, he feared, a few members of the L.C.C. who were bitter opponents of Sunday opening upon what should properly be termed theological grounds, and on these grounds alone. These members were not numerous, but they were very virile and very insistent, and they had endeavoured to move the L.C.C. by means largely of newspaper propaganda. The chief ground, and the only ground upon which they could effectively place anything like a real and definite issue, had been the question of Sunday labour, and that was the first point which had to be kept very carefully in view in any campaign that should be undertaken. He thought that question had been answered very effectively, and for all time, in this respect, that if they took the London area—and whatever applied to that area applied in the same way to Middlesex—the whole labour involved in the Sunday opening of cinema theatres in London averaged not more than 2,300 persons for something like 226 or 236 theatres. Anyone who knew anything of London life would realise that in the matter of attending to the material—and often not very necessary material—wants of comparatively few people, something like 20,000 persons were employed on Sundays in hotels and restaurants in London. When they could entertain something like between 50,000 to 1,000,000 people with an expenditure of labour of something like 2,500 people, and when over 20,000 people were employed in feeding a comparatively small number of people, it was obvious that the argument of Sunday labour fell to the ground. (Applause.)

In regard to the form of entertainment at cinematograph theatres, it was without doubt a form of entertainment that required the minimum amount of labour, while the character of the entertainment was such that no person, however strong his theological scruples might be, could take any exception to it. There was a quiet atmosphere in the picture theatre, and, as a matter of fact, a man could think more seriously in a picture theatre than he could in a church; certainly in a good many churches and chapels. (Applause.) The Association had found that there was a disposition on the part of certain members of the L.C.C. to raise the Sunday opening issue, and the Association had been at work, but he observed that in the programmes of both Progressive and Moderate parties they were agreed upon Sunday opening in London. He did not suppose that they proposed in Middlesex to force Sunday opening on anyone who did not want it; what they wanted was freedom to open where such freedom was desired to be exercised. (Applause.) It was a crying injustice that on one side of the street which happened to be within the London area a cinema theatre could be opened, while on the other side of the street which happened to be in Middlesex the theatre must be closed. The matter was one which must be brought before the electorate, and he urged that the campaign should be started at once. It was a campaign that could be very effective, for no candidate for public office could afford to overlook the fact that if every cinema theatre became a sort of committee room against him, he would have to face very serious odds. (Applause.) He suggested that they should form a small committee to deal with the matter, and it might be necessary, he said, to put up a candidate against an opponent. There was one strong opponent to Sunday opening whom they all knew of, and he thought he ought to be opposed.

Discussion followed, in the course of which the question of the public demand for Sunday opening was raised.

It was ultimately decided to form a committee to take up the matter and inaugurate a campaign, Fourteen gentlemen were elected to the committee, and it is understood that a strenuous campaign will be immediately inaugurated.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

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Corporation's Claim for Monopoly Fair Rights.

Negotiations are still pending between the Showmen's Guild and the Corporation of Aberystwith. The claim of the Council to a complete monopoly of fairs will be contested through every stage of their bill's progress in Parliament. Having successfully met and defeated similar proposals in previous sessions the Showmen's Guild will not fail with Aberystwith. The Bill will be heard first in the House of Lords. After it has passed the ordeal of the Lord's Private Bills Committee it has to pass the Commons Committee; so that the Guild can have two shots at it—one in the Lords and one in the Commons.

Harassing and Vexatious Litigation.

The Guild has a just claim for its legal expenses against Aberystwith or any other corporation seeking to create a monopoly of fairs. Many corporations have tried and failed in monopoly clauses, and in the notable instance of Oldham Corporation the Guild was given its costs by the Parliamentary Committee. This was done to mark the sense of the committee's objection to repeated attempts to gain a decision contrary to its previous ruling. To award petitioners against a Bill their costs is a rare thing for Parliament to do. This distinction has been given the Guild upon two memorable occasions: the first was against the Corporation of Acton, and the second against Oldham.

Considering the fact that the claim of Aberystwith is identical with the defeated clause in the Luton Bill of 1911, and the deleted clause in the Tavistock Bill of 1912, the Guild has a good claim for its costs.

The Principality and Trade Defence.

The Welsh fairs have been singularly free hitherto from attempted interference by public bodies in Private Bill Legislation. For over twenty years the showmen of Wales whilst enjoying an enviable security themselves have constantly supported their English brethren in the costly business of trade defence. Frequently at the Guild meetings in Wales this immunity from attack has been a matter for congratulation, and has made the Welsh support of the Guild an extremely pleasant act of unity and fellowship in good work.

This can no longer be claimed for Wales. The Aberystwith Bill and the Mynyddyslwyn Bill of the forthcoming sessions breaks the honourable record of the Welsh public bodies. If these authorities are allowed to establish a bad precedent in Welsh legislation then other corporations may follow, and Welsh showmen will find themselves under the tyranny and stigma of class legislation of a penal and invidious character. As the Welshmen have never failed in their generous support of the common good so the rest of the United Kingdom will not fail "brave little Wales." Shoulder to shoulder British showmen stand. A quarter of a century's persistent advocacy of the advantages of unity and combination has taught the showmen of the United Kingdom to take a wide and far-reaching view of their duty in the matter of trade defence work.

No part of the kingdom is secure from attempts like that of Aberystwith to penalise the show business by restrictive legislation and excessive powers of local control.

Other Points of Attack.

The Guild executive officials are corresponding now with two important corporations—one in the north and the other in the south—on matters of vital moment to the showmen attending these particular fairs. It would serve no useful purpose to give the names of the towns in question, certainly not at the present stage of the matter with each corporation. We only mention them here to show that a great deal of the best work of the Guild is done in a quiet but influential way by direct intercourse, and by tactful negotiations with local authorities.

This part of trade defence is well noted in the annual report of the Guild for the past year. In the report it is stated: "It is also satisfactory to note the constantly growing interest in the Guild and its work evinced by Members of Parliament and corporation officials. A great amount of correspondence takes place annually between your executive officials and corporate bodies, and the readiness with which our deputation work is now conducted, compared with its difficulties in the past, is a remarkable testimony to the growing influence of your organisation."

The Growing Power of the Guild.

One fact stands out clear and indisputable, and that is the national recognition of the Guild as the trade union of showmen. Corporations know now that the individual showmen is no longer subject to their caprice and dictation, that the poorest and humblest travelling entertainer in the land has behind him a well-equipped organisation able and ready to defend and to protect show life wherever it may be attacked. It is this consciousness of security that is lifting up the status of the travelling showman and giving him confidence in his own powers and in his own place in the commonwealth no longer an alien, but a fellow citizen with his patrons the showloving public.

Meetings at Lynn Mart.

Wednesday, Feb. 19, will be a busy day for the assembled showmen at King's Lynn Fair, popularly known as "The Mart." The day will open with a morning meeting of the Showmen's Guild in the historic town hall of Lynn. This gathering has been held without a break for twenty-four years. The Mayor of Lynn is expected to preside, and the member for Lynn (Mr. H. Holcombe Ingleby) to address the meeting.

In the afternoon the Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union hold their annual gathering. In the evening the great show machine and roundabout engineers, Savages, Ltd., will entertain their showmen friends and customers of the firm to dinner in the grand banqueting hall of the Guildhall, the scene of so many notable events in the story of the famous town of Lynn.

Guild Subscriptions, 1913.

Balance of the World's Fair Supper and Ball Committee Fund, per Mr. Frank Turner, £4; Mr. A. A. Strong (hon. member), 21s.; Mr. C. Bailey, 10s.; Mr. G. Saunders, 10s.; Mr. G. Pickard, 10s.; Mr. J. Mayne, 10s.; Mr. E. Smith, 5s.; Mr. J. Manning, 5s.; Mr. J. Palkowski, 5s.; Mr. J. Hyatt, 5s.; Mr. H. Street, 5s.

Sinclair's Portable Theatre.

Doing excellent private business at the village of Barwell, near Hinckley. The capital stock company in repertoire are drawing crowded houses nightly.

THE 'SLAVE' BANGLE
GOLD PLATED 2/6 EACH
AS WORN BY ALL THE PROS.
AGENTS WANTED
24 AUGUSTA ST.
THE BIRMINGHAM SIGNET RING Co BIRMINGHAM.

EDWARD COMPTON AT BRIGHTON.

Mr. Edward Compton made the following speech at the close of the initial performance of "Everywoman" at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, this week:—"Ladies and gentlemen, you have heard me speak so many pretty speeches to-night of our author's composing, that I fear any words of my own must necessarily appear tame and commonplace, but I cannot allow the evening to pass without thanking you very heartily on Mr. Bode's behalf and my own for the very kind, and even generous, manner in which you have received this, our first, performance of "Everywoman," and I would like to mention a somewhat unique coincidence in connection with to-night. Thirty-two years ago, on this very evening, I commenced my career as an actor-manager with the Compton Comedy Company, and I think it is a good omen to be commencing with to-night's play on the anniversary of such a successful undertaking as the Compton Comedy Company. I was nobody *then*, I am 'Nobody' still; I was fond of every woman *then*, I am fond of 'Everywoman' still. I was the public's obedient, humble servant then, I am the public's obedient, humble, and grateful servant to-day. But enough of myself. I want to thank every member of the company, from Miss Congdon downwards, for the loyal, whole-hearted, and talented manner in which they have worked, and, above all, I would like to thank Mr. Ernest Dauban, Drury Lane's stage manager, for the patience, perseverance, and high capability he has displayed in his character of producer, and to say that without him we could have done nothing. And now, ladies and gentlemen, I will detain you no longer. You have made me so happy and contented to-night that I make bold to say to you, with Shakespeare:—

"'Good-night, good-night. As sweet repose and rest
Come to your hearts, as that within my breast.'"

FIRE AT THE THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.

A serious outbreak of fire was discovered early on Tuesday morning at the Theatre Royal, Blackburn, and the flames were not extinguished until very considerable damage had been done.

The fire was situated at the rear of the theatre, and the task of the fire brigade was not an easy one, for so strong a hold had the flames obtained that the roof soon began to give way, and large pieces of burning timber fell about the heads of the firemen. The brigade, however, succeeded in their object of keeping the fire away from the auditorium, which was not harmed in the least. The fireproof curtain withstood the fury of the outbreak, but the stage, the roof above it, the stock scenery belonging to the theatre, and the elaborate scenic effects of Mr. George Dance's production of "The Hope," were ruined. The back portion of the theatre was gutted, and a considerable time must elapse before the damage is repaired.

Mr. Harry Lyons, the manager of the theatre, has paid a warm tribute to the splendid work of Inspector Simpson and the brigade. The damage, amounting to some thousands of pounds, is, we understand, covered by insurance.

Preparations have already been begun for the theatrical garden party, and a committee has been formed, including Sir Herbert and Lady Tree, Sir George and Lady Alexander, Sir John Hare, Mr. Cyril Maude and Miss Winifred Emery, Mr. Arthur Bourchier and Miss Violet Vanbrugh, Mr. Gerald du Maurier, Mr. Robert Courtneidge, Mr. Granville Barker, Mr. George Grossmith, Mr. Edmund Gwenn, Mr. Dennis Eadie, Miss Hilda Trevelyan, Miss Julia Neilson, and many other leading managers.

The 250th performance of "Gipsy Love" will be reached to-night, the 8th inst., at Daly's Theatre.

Mr. Charles Darrell has been commissioned by Mr. Wentworth Croke to write him an entirely new and original drama, which Mr. Croke hopes to produce at the Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, early in the autumn.

Miss Phyllis Neilson-Terry had a flattering reception at her début on the concert platform at Queen's Hall on Thursday, and her sweet voice was heard with pleasing effect in Felicien David's "Couplets du Mysoli" and two of Mr. Landon Ronald's songs, which were accompanied by the composer.

At Leeds on Thursday George Paton, 26, photographer, and Nellie Brook, 26, servant, pleaded guilty to stealing a gold handbag valued at £50, notes to the value of £15, and £10 in gold, the property of Miss Ella Retford, the principal "boy" at the Leeds Grand Theatre pantomime. The defendants, known as Louis Hythe and Nellie Hythe, were employed at 5, Grove-terrace, Leeds, when Miss Retford and her husband went to lodge with Benjamin Reinhardt on the opening of "Humpty Dumpty." The defendants left the house together on New Year's Eve. They were not seen again until they were arrested at Southampton. Miss Retford asked their worships to deal as leniently as possible with the defendants. The male defendant was sent to prison for four months, and the female defendant for two months, both in the second division.

Mr. Wentworth Croke on Wednesday afternoon last entertained at the Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, for the fourth consecutive year, the inmates of the Fulham and Hammersmith Workhouses. The men were presented by Mr. Croke with a new pipe and an ounce of tobacco, the ladies with 1lb. of tea, and the children with a box of chocolates. In the interval tea, cakes, &c., were served to the visitors by the staff of the theatre and the pantomime artistes.

The Ipswich Lyceum Theatre had all previous "records" broken last week, both for individual performances and the week's gross, by Mr. George Dance's company in "The Whip." Under the spirited management of Murray King, Clark, and W. H. Savery the Lyceum has regained all its old prestige, and is now a much sought after date.

The Kennington Theatre pantomime ball was held at The Horns, Kennington, on the 31st ult., and proved one of the most enjoyable and interesting functions of its kind for several years. The arrangements were admirably made by Miss Marshall, the box-office keeper at the theatre, and she brought together not only all the members of the company and the theatre staff but a good many others associated with the theatre. Dancing started at midnight, and was kept up without a break until four o'clock. Conspicuous figures of the ballroom were Miss Norah Delaney (the principal boy), who looked very handsome in a costume of yellow silk; Miss Ada Thomas (the Princess), who wore a confection of blue and white; Miss May Erne, Mr. H. B. Brandreth (manager of Kennington Theatre); Mrs. Brandreth, who was gowned in grey; Miss Marshall, who looked exceedingly pretty in black silk and lace. Others present included Messrs. Berkeley and Wheeler, Mr. MacLachlan (manager of the Stoll Circuit), Mr. Percy Downing (chef d'orchestre at Kennington Theatre), Mrs. Downing, Mr. Clifford Morgan (Abanazar), Mr. Arthur Staples (Widow Twankey), and Mr. Ernie Chester (Grand Vizier).

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Each additional word, One Penny.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies for KENNINGTON THEATRE, S.E.,
April 14, June 2.
Aug. 4, 11, 18, 25, Sept. 15, 29, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.,
April 14, 21, May 5, 12, 19, 26, Aug. 18, 25, Sept. 15, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING,
March 3, 10, 17, 31, April 14, 21, May 5, Aug. 4, 11, 18, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER,
April 21, May 19, Aug. 11, 18, Sept. 1, 8, Oct. 13, Nov. 3, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
Dec. 15.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON,
March 3, April 21, May 12, 19, Aug. 4, 11, 18, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
April 21, May 12, Aug. 11, 18, 25, Sept. 8, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
March 24, May 12, Aug. 4, 11, 25, Sept. 1, 8, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
May 12, 19 26, June 2, 16, 23, on.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Pantomimes for next Christmas at:—
County Theatre, Reading, eight nights.
Dalston Theatre, two or four weeks.
Please say where can be seen.
Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, Jules Richeux.
WANTED, Wanted, First-class Attractions, May 12, and few Autumn vacancies. Bookings: D'Oyly Carte, "Merry Widow," "Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," "Kismet," "Milestones," "Ready Money," "The Quaker Girl," "Chocolate Soldier," Mrs. Langtry, "Waltz Dream," "Count of Luxembourg," "The Whip," "Glad Eye," "Bunty Pulls the Strings," "Sunshine Girl," "Drake," &c.
Re dates, Jay and Mann.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
The Most Charming Theatre on South Coast.
Seating capacity over 1,000.
Holding £120 at ordinary prices.
Open all the year round.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Feb. 24, March 10, 31, May 5, Whit, and on, with exceptions.
Re dates, apply Jay and Mann.
Other coms., W. R. Wallis, Manager.

WANTED, first-class Attractions only for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD.
March 17, 24, April 7, 14, on.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
March 24, April 14, May 12, 19, on.
Address, E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Feb. 10, and onwards to Easter.
Address, Wm. Holland, T.R., Canterbury.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE.
WANTED, March 3, on (with exceptions).
Panto. Production Xmas.
Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, WINDSOR.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for April 7, 14, 21, May 12 (Whit.). Also Autumn. Apply, J. E. Bull, as above.

THEATRE ROYAL, PETERBOROUGH.
Lessee: Lieut.-Colonel Winstanley.
WANTED, Musical Attraction, March 17; Dramatic, March 24 (first three nights).
All communications re dates, Adams' Agency, Broadmead House, Panton-street, Haymarket.

KEMBLE THEATRE, HEREFORD.
A Magnificent New Theatre, Holding £100.
WANTED, High-class Attractions.
All communications re dates,
Adams' Agency, Broadmead House,
Panton-street, Haymarket, S.W.
Tel., "Shrieking Charles, London" (counts two words).

THEATRE ROYAL, SWANSEA.
This newly constructed, redecorated, and refurnished theatre is now open for staging the very best productions on the road.

WANTED, Grand Opera, Musical Comedy, High-class Plays, Pantomimes, and every other kind of money-making attraction.
Vacant dates to William Coutts, Proprietor.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
March 10, 17.
March 10, 17.
March 10, 17.
Twice-nightly Attractions preferred.
Now playing to the holding capacity nightly.
James Bell.

HARROGATE AND SCARBOROUGH GRAND OPERA HOUSES.
WANTED, Companies (Musical preferred) for Feb. 17, Scarborough,
March 3, Harrogate.
Vacant through obliging Manager.
Apply,
William Peacock, Theatre, Harrogate.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Lessee and Manager, Sidney Bacon.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, March 10. Wire.
Bookings include: Carl Rosa Opera Co., "Bunty Pulls the Strings," "The Glad Eye," "The Chocolate Soldier," "Milestones," &c.
Address, Sidney Bacon, 143, Charing Cross-road, London, W.C. Telephone, 1456 Gerrard.
Telegrams, "Nocabdis-Ox-London."

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. WANTED,
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. STAR
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. ATTRACTIONS
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
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NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. FOLLOWING
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. DATES.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
1913. Vacant March 17, 31, May 5, June 2, 9, 16, 30, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
(Arrangements complete.)

THEATRE ROYAL, TONYPANDY.
Early Spring Vacancies.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Early Spring Vacancies.

KING'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BARRY.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
(Arrangements complete.)

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Early Spring Vacancies.

"CINDERELLA."
Wanted large Theatre to produce "Cinderella" next season.
Wanted, to Let, on Royalty, for Stock Season or Tour, several Important Dramas, including "The Prairie Flower," "Our British Empire," &c., &c.
All communications to
Arthur Carlton, Ravenscourt, Worcester.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for March 10 (?) and 17 (?), April 7, and the three nights commencing April 21. Open to treat with first-class management for a three months' Stock Season from about the first week in May.
Applications for dates, &c., to Hugh Robertson, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

WANTED, First-class Attractions only.
T.R., DUBLIN, April 7.
G.T., DUBLIN, May 19.
O.H., BELFAST, March 17, 24, May 12, 19, 26.
O.H., CORK, April 28, May 5.
G.T., SWANSEA, June 16, 23, 30.
G.T., SOUTHAMPTON, May 5 (?).
T.R., BOURNEMOUTH, March 17, 31 (?).
P.P.T., BRIGHTON Feb. 17, 24 (?), March 31.
HIPPO., DARLINGTON, April 14, and good Drama, new to Darlington, May to August.
Apply, The Fredk. Mouillot Offices,
1, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

METROPOLE, GLASGOW, LTD.
Scotland's Premier Drama Theatre.
Mr. Fredk. Melville's Play,
"MARRIED TO THE WRONG MAN."
Beat all New Year Holiday Records."

Mr. Oswald Cray's Play,
"THE MORMON AND HIS WIVES."
proved a worthy successor; its reception on Monday night gave promise of a week's business up to its own and the "Met's" reputation.

Bookings ahead include:—
"Bad Girl of the Family," "Monk and the Woman," "Monte Cristo," "Driven from Home," "Great White Chief," "Child of the Streets," "Girl of My Heart," "Cattle Thief," "Midnight Wedding," "Pride of the Prairie," "White as a Lily," "Bonnie Mary," "At Break of Day," "The Miracle," "From Portland to Liberty," "Black Mask," "Old Folks at Home," "Collier's Lass," "Kelly Gang," "For Mother's Sake," "Great Detective," "When Other Lips," "Queen for a Wife," "Only an Artist's Model," "The Woman he Wanted," "Rob Roy" (John Clyde), "It's Always the Woman," "White Slave," "Death or Glory Boys," "What Women Will Do for Love," "The Gambler," "Only a Mill Girl," "A White Slave," "Mother," Morton Powell's Plays, Arthur Jefferson's Plays, &c.

WANTED, "You-must-see-*that*" Plays, May 19, June 2, July 7, 14, 21, and various onwards.

All communications, Arthur Jefferson, 132, Charing Cross-road, London, W.C.
Wires, "Aitenev-Ox-London." 'Phone, Regent 1480.

GAIETY, DUNDEE.
WANTED, twice-nightly Attractions March 10, March 31, May 19, and various onwards.
Address (dates only), Arthur Jefferson, 132, Charing Cross-road, London. Wires, Aitenev-Ox-London." 'Phone, Regent 1480.

KELLY'S ENTERPRISES, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, Powerful Attractions, for Weeks of Feb. 24, March 17, and April 28.
Wire or write to W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal,
Birkenhead.

THEATRE ROYAL, EXETER.
WANTED, First-class Companies, March 31, April 14, May 5, 12, 19, 26. Full particulars to Manager, Theatre Royal, Exeter.

WANTED, Wanted, Companies.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
March 3, 31, and on, with exceptions.
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
March 3, 10, 31, and April 14.
THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN.
March 24 (Pantomime only).
GRAND THEATRE, LANCASTER.
March 10, April 7, 21, 28, May 19, 26.
Stanley Rogers,
Theatre Royal, North Shields.

WANTED, Attractions, for Feb. 24, March 10.
Weymouth.
Wire, Charlton Mann, Adelphi Theatre, W.C.

BRIXTON THEATRE, S.W.
WANTED, Attraction, March 3, 17, and on.
Fredk. Melville, Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

WANTED, First-class Attractions: March 3, Eastbourne, Hastings; March 10, Coronet (Star Co.); March 17, Fulham, Ipswich; Easter, Eastbourne, Hastings (Mus. Com.).
H. W. Rowland, Coronet Theatre, W.

PALACE THEATRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
WANTED, Strong Attractions.
April 7 and 28.
Apply, T. W. Rowe.

WANTED, First-class West-End Successes, Feb. 17 (week), 27, 28. March 1, March 31 (week), Aug. 4, 5, 6, 7, Sept. 2, onwards. Bellerby, King's Hall, Ilkley.

NEW THEATRE, DUMFRIES.
WANTED, Companies. Musical Comedy, Drama (not melodrama), Farcical Comedy.
A few Spring and Autumn dates. The town will be carefully "nursed" for dramatic purposes; a small but well-equipped stage. The new theatre is the prettiest theatre and picture hall in Scotland. Seats 1,200.
For dates apply to General-Manager, Mr. John Darliston.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE, GRIMSBY.
WANTED, Company, for Three Nights, March 31, to precede "Gay Lord Quex."
Copy of Bill and all Particulars to J. H. Curry, as above.

COMPANIES WANTED.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attractions only, for the above popular Drama Theatre, as follows:—
April 7,
April 14,
April 21,
May 19,
May 26,
Aug. 4,
Aug. 11,
Aug. 18,
and on, with exceptions.
Write, with full particulars, Moss' Empires, Ltd., Cranbourn-street, London, W.C. Envelopes marked "Theatres."

SEVEN PROGRESSIVE THEATRES.
WANTED, High-class Companies.
CORONET THEATRE, LONDON, W.
March 10, April 21, May 12, 19, June 2, 23.
FULHAM THEATRE, S.W.
March 17, 31, April 14, onwards.
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE.
March 3, 17, 24, April 7, 21, 28.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
March 3, 24, 31, April 28, May 12.
PLEASURE GARDENS, FOLKESTONE.
March 6 (3), April 16 (3), 21 (3), 28.
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.
March 31 to May 12.
LYCEUM THEATRE, IPSWICH.
March 17, April 21 (?), May 5 (3), 19, 26.
Apply, H. W. Rowland, Coronet Theatre, W.

MORTON POWELL THEATRES.
WANTED, Wanted, Powerful Plays.
BRITANNIA THEATRE, LONDON.
Spring Dates.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Spring.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH.
Feb. 17 through disappointment.
March 3, 10, 17.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London.

THEATRE ROYAL.
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Sept 22, Oct. 6, onwards, with exceptions.
This Season's Bookings up to date as follows:—
Sept. 2, "A Royal Divorce."
Sept. 9, Flanagan's "Winter's Tale."
Sept. 16, "Man and Superman."
Sept. 23, "The Chocolate Soldier."
Sept. 30, "The Whip."
Oct. 7, Flanagan's "Othello."
Oct. 14, "The Gay Lord Quex."
Oct. 21, "The Arcadians."
Oct. 28, "Raffles."
Nov. 4, "The Count of Luxembourg."
Nov. 11, "Hindle Wakes."
Nov. 18. "Miss Hook of Holland."
Nov. 25, "His House in Order."
Dec. 2, "The Silver King."
Dec. 9. Local Operatic Society.
Dec. 16. Closed (Panto. Rehearsals).
Dec. 23, Pantomime.
Dec. 30, Pantomime.
Jan. 6, Pantomime.
Jan. 13. Pantomime.
Jan. 20, "Our Miss Gibbs."
Jan. 27, "Brewster's Millions."
Feb. 3, Mr. George Edwardes' Repertoire Co.
Feb. 10, Geo. N. Ballanger's "The Round-Up."
Address,
Charles Revill, T.R., Stockport.

WANTED, Pretoria, Okehampton; holds 300 (main line, Exeter-Plymouth); scenery, piano, electric light; 65 per cent. to 80 per cent. Tel. address, "Vide," Okehampton.

GRAND THEATRE, CROYDON.
WANTED, Strong Attraction, March 10 and March 24, Easter Week.
Apply, Dick Adams, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

OPERETTA HOUSE, CLACTON-ON-SEA.
WANTED, First-class Attractions.
Only vacant dates, July 7, 14, 21, Aug. 18, Sept. 11 (3 nights), Sept. 15 (3 nights), Sept. 22, 29. Bookings and pencillings include: Carl Hertz, "Glad Eye" (return), "Jelf's," "Dust of Egypt," "Witness for the Defence," "Milestones," "Cingalee," "Quaker Girl," &c.
A. E. Abrahams,
73, Romford-road, Stratford, E.

GRAND THEATRE, RHYL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Easter (last three nights only). Whit., June 30, and on.
Also good pantomime, Jan.
Address, Chas. M. Julian, Manager,
Opera House, Londonderry.

PALACE THEATRE, GLOUCESTER.
WANTED, First-class Musical Comedies (once or twice nightly), vacant dates March 17, 31, May 5, 12, 26, June 9, 16, 23, 30, and various Autumn dates. Wire or write Rea, Palace, Gloucester.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, First-class Productions, Musical Comedy, Drama, or Variety, April 7, 14, May 19, 26, June 9, 16, onwards, with exceptions. Also good Musical, Dramatic, or Variety Productions, for Garrison Theatre, Tidworth, Feb. 17, 24, on.
Address, Alfred Manners, Empire Theatre, Swindon.

EMPIRE THEATRE, TONYPANDY.
STILL BOOMING.
Another tremendous week with
"THE SIGN OF THE CROSS."
WANTED, Known, Vacant, March 24 (?), and various on.
Share or certainty.
Sam Duckworth,
Empire,
Tonypandy.

THE NEW RINK THEATRE, WREXHAM.
Now open for staging the first productions.
Stage, 50 by 40. Pros. opening, 30ft.
Bookings for Summer and Autumn.
WANTED, First-class Companies only.
Write
W. Wood Winstanley, Manager,
Re dates, &c.

PALACE THEATRE, TYNEMOUTH.
WANTED, First-class Companies only.
The most beautiful theatre in the North.
Holds £130.
Full Staff and Competent Orchestra.
Everything done on first-class lines.
Vacant June 23 (race week), July 7, 14, 21, Sept. 19, Oct. 6, onwards.
Bookings include: — "Quaker Girl," "Merry Widow," "Milestones," "The Glad Eye," "The Arcadians," "The Dollar Princess," &c.
Gateshead can be booked in conjunction.
Apply, Macdonald and Young, 33, Lisle-st., W.C.
Tel., Gerrard 1299.

WANTED, Wanted, First-class Company, April 21.
Southport.
Apply, Clarkson, Southport.

GRAND THEATRE, ACCRINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Companies for March 17, April 7, 21, 28, and May. Fred W. Green.

FALMOUTH.
ST. GEORGE'S HALL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Musical Comedy, Comedy, and High-class Drama; New and Up-to-date Hall; the best in the West; holding capacity 1,200; three nights preferred. Share or guarantee. Coms., Harold R. Woodward, General Manager.

COMPANIES WANTED.

THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions Only, April 7, May 26, June 2, July 28.
Address, Lawson Lambert, as above.

GRAND THEATRE, RHYL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Easter (last three nights only), Whit Week, July 14, and on.
Bookings and pencillings include:
Mr. George Edwardes' "Merry Widow" (two visits), "The Girl in the Train," "The Balkan Princess," "The Arcadians," "The Dancing Mistress," "The Dollar Princess," "The Chocolate Soldier," "The Glad Eye," "Bunty Pulls the Strings," "A Butterfly on the Wheel," "The Speckled Band," "Milestones," "Little Miss Llewelyn," &c., &c.
Address, Charles M. Julian, Manager.
Feb. 10, Osborne T., Manchester.

COUNTY THEATRE, BANGOR.
COUNTY THEATRE, BANGOR.
Magnificent stage, brilliant lighting, excellent band and staff, expert advertising. Future bookings include:—"The Christian," "The Thief," "Merry Widow," Alexander Marsh, "Royal Divorce," "The Barrier," "Arcadians," "Butterfly on the Wheel," "Ann," "Girl in the Train," "Dollar Princess," "Dancing Mistress," "Chocolate Soldier," "Improper Peter," "Sally Bishop," "Little Miss Llewelyn," "Diana of Dobson's," "What Happened to Jones," "The Slave Girl," "Queen of the Redskins," "Sweet and Twenty," &c., &c.
WANTED, Big Attractions, for March 3, July 21 (through death of Van Biene), Sept. 22 (3 nights), Sept. 29, and few on. James Hare, Proprietor and Manager.

GAIETY THEATRE, AYR.
WANTED, First-class Companies.
Feb. 20, three nights.
Feb. 20, three nights.
March 10, six nights.
March 10, six nights.
Harry W. Day.

WANTED, High-class Attractions, Feb. 24, March 10, also Easter (open Saturday, if possible), and various, till Whit. This month's bookings include "The Barrier." "Hindle Wakes," "With Edged Tools." "Leah Kleschna," &c. Apply, Frank Wolsey, Lighthouse Pavilion, Hoylake.

NEW CENTURY THEATRE, MOTHERWELL.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, March 17 (3 nights), 24 (?), and various on.
Also Autumn.
Full particulars, John A. Walker.

WANTED, High-class Musical Comedy, or Comedy one, two, or three nights first part Easter week; capital licensed hall in Midlands; good stage, dressing-rooms, tableau curtains, &c.; seating accommodation 500 to 600; moderate inclusive fee, no sharing terms. Apply, Box 4,302, "The Era."

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies, for March 3, 17 (?), 24, and onwards. Address, E. B. Goulden.

WANTED, April 21, New Theatre, Cambridge. Last 3 nights are vacant at Oxford. W. B. Redfern, New Theatre, Cambridge.

SHODFRIARS HALL, BOSTON.
Lessee and Manager, Harold H. Dodds.
WANTED, Wanted, Good Companies.
March 31 week (2 nights),
April 7 week (2 nights),
April 14 week (2 nights),
Strong Attraction Wanted for Easter Monday and Tuesday,
also
Boston Fair Dates,
May 5, 6, 7.
With Musical Comedy should take good money.
Bookings in connection with New Arcadia Theatre, Skegness, 2 nights Boston, 1 night Skegness.

NEW OLYMPIA THEATRE, BLACKBURN.
General-Manager, Reginald Yorke.
Popular Theatre. Popular Prices.
Popular Management.
Telegrams, "Yorkestra." Tel., 798.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Flying Matinées Only,
No other vacant dates.
Stage measurements:—
Opening, 32ft.; width. 70ft.; depth, 40ft.
Bookings include:—
Royal Carl Rosa Opera Co.,
"Inconstant George," "Arms and the Man."
Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, companies.
&c., &c., &c.

THE PIER AND GRAND PAVILION, COLWYN BAY.
WANTED, Strong Attractions, Musical or Farcical Comedy, &c., three nights, May 8, 9, 10; two nights, Aug. 1, 2; two nights, Sept. 2, 3; and October. Splendid week's business with C. Constant's "Aladdin" Co. Date pencilled for 1914.
Lowest terms to
W. Yates Gregory, General-Manager.

WANTED, Twice-nightly Pantomimes next season, for Hippodrome, Birkenhead, and Oldham.
Address, E. Dottridge, 50, Union-street, Oldham.

GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
EASTER, Four Nights.
WANTED, Good Attraction, not Drama, for this very good date.
Write, Manager.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, First-class Theatres for above, from Easter onwards. Would rent a good Provincial Theatre. Letters, Stafford, Biddenden, Kent.

"DIANA OF DOBSON'S."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, March 10, between London and Hull, 31. Entire actual Kingsway Theatre production. Bookings include all principal provincial and suburban theatres.
Harold V. Neilson, Hippodrome, Crouch End, N.

Ireland's Representative Comedian,
CHALMERS MACKEY,
in
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN,"
"ROLLICKING RORY."
WANTED, no vacant dates till Spring, 1914.
Feb. 10, Osborne T., Manchester.

"THE DUST OF EGYPT."
WANTED, March 24 (?), follow return Hastings, March 31 (?), Aug. 18, Sept. 8, Oct. 27.
George Waters, 4, Park-place, St. James-street.

THE GREAT FARCICAL SUCCESS, "THE AMAZONS."
By Arthur Pinero.
From the Duke of York's Theatre, London.
WANTED, Feb. 20 (3), through transfer to oblige, March 3,
March 31 (3), and July 28, on.
Address, Alfred Gray.
Feb. 10, Pleasure Gardens Theatre, Folkestone.

"JOSEPH ENTANGLED," "MRS. DANE'S DEFENCE," "THE LIARS,"
WANTED, Feb. 10 (follow D.P.T., Eastbourne), 17, 24, various summer. Cast includes Miss Mabel Mannering.
Wire,
Millar Anderson, 5, Wardour-street.

THEATRES WANTED.

ARTHUR HINTON AND LEILA ZILLWOOD'S COMPANIES.
ARTHUR HINTON AND LEILA ZILLWOOD'S COMPANIES.

THE ORIGINAL AND BEST.

A COLUMN OF WINNERS.

GOOD WINE NEEDS NO BUSH.

"ALLAH'S ORCHARD."
"ALLAH'S ORCHARD."
By Miss Emma Litchfield.

The Ideal Twice Nightly Attraction.

This is without doubt the Finest Spectacular Production ever attempted beyond the precincts of the West-End.

Costumes, Scenery, and General Mounting Unsurpassed.

Bevy of Beautiful Women.

Musical-Director.

In brief, absolutely the last word in up-to-date enterprise.

Managers Delighted.

Will managers please note that, owing to the continued enormous success of "Allah's Orchard," it has been decided to tour this play through the summer. Those with vacant dates kindly communicate for this enormous attraction.

Mr. Hinton wishes to assure managers that this play is the success of 1913.

The general opinion of every town visited: Nothing like it ever seen here before.

Fast filling the autumn, so communicate early, and so secure the play that everyone is talking about.

A company of talented artistes, including
Miss Florence Zillwood as Muriel Dugarde, and
Mr. Arthur Hinton as Prince of Barona.

WANTED, Big Theatres,
March 17,
March 17,

April 28, May 19,
April 28, May 19,

and onwards.
and onwards.

Communications re Dates to
ARTHUR HINTON,
KING'S T., LONGSIGHT.

"HIS INDIAN WIFE."
"HIS INDIAN WIFE."
By Miss Emma Litchfield.

WANTED, Wanted, Theatres,
March 3 and 10,
March 3 and 10,

April 14, 21,
April 14, 21,

May 5,
May 5,

and onwards.
and onwards.

Again this successful play will go right through the summer.

A Few Autumn Dates Vacant.

WARNING. WARNING.—To Public Halls, &c. It having come to my knowledge that certain persons are performing my copyright play, "His Indian Wife," without permission, I wish to inform managers of above places, and all whom it may concern, that on any such case becoming known to me I will immediately take steps to prevent same.

"KING OF THE GIPSIES."
"KING OF THE GIPSIES."
By Miss Emma Litchfield.

Wanted, Theatres,
Wanted, Theatres,

Feb. 17,
Feb. 17,

March 17.
March 17,

April 14,
April 14,

May 19,
May 19,

and onwards.
and onwards.

ARTHUR HINTON and LEILA ZILLWOOD
Wish to inform Managers they have secured
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR,"
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR,"
by the talented Authoress,
Miss Emma Litchfield.

Production,
LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH, Feb. 24.

Everything travelled, including a Horse.

Wanted, Theatres,
Wanted, Theatres,

April 14,
April 14,

May 5, May 12, and onwards.
May 5, May 12, and onwards.

NEW PRODUCTION.
NEW PRODUCTION.

Aug., 1913.
Aug., 1913.
Aug., 1913.

Title will be announced later.

If you see it in a Hinton and Zillwood advert. it is so.

Re Dates.
Mr. G. MORETON-WILLIAMS,
"Holmdene," 1, River Bank, Hampton Court.

Telephone, 1732 Kingston-on-Thames.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE MONK AND THE WOMAN."
WANTED, Wanted, March 31, April 7, May 5, 12, and on.
Fredk. Melville, Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, March 10, 17, 24.
Andrew Melville, Empire T., Holloway, N.

Alexandre Dumas' Masterpiece,
"MONTE CRISTO,"
from the New Princes Theatre, W.C.
The entire production carried.
WANTED, March 10, 31, May 5.
Andrew Emm, Princes Theatre, W.C.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted.
for this Phenomenal Attraction,
Weeks of March 31 and May 26.
Weeks of March 31 and May 26.
Wire or write to W. W. Kelly, New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"THE NEW EAST LYNNE."
The Most Successful Version Ever Written.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted.
Weeks of March 24 and 31.
Weeks of March 24 and 31.
Weeks of March 24 and 31.
Once or twice nightly.
Wire or write to W. W. Kelly, New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres or Halls, March 17, 24, onward.
Big Company. Full Chorus. Real Negro Specialties.
All the special scenery and printing.
Charles Harrington,
Holloway Empire, London.

"EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres,
Feb. 17, 24,
March 3, 17, 24, April 14,
May 12, June 23, 30,
July 28, Aug. 4, 11, &c.
Letters and telegrams to
J. Pitt Hardacre,
Palace, Porth.

J. W. CORDINER AND HARRY RICHARDSON'S COMPANY.
"THE COLOMBO GIRL."
By Wilfred Carr.
Music by Harry Richardson.
WANTED, Feb. 17, 24 (three nights), Easter.
All communications, J. W. Cordiner, Feb. 10, New Hippodrome, Shildon.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
Played by a Cast that spells SUCCESS.
Mr. John Worth. | Mr. Edwin Morton.
Mr. Evan Roland. | Mr. Reg. Oldroyd.
Mr. Fred Dalby. | Mr. T. C. Glenville.
Miss Maude Steeples. | Miss Sybil Haughton.
Miss Nancy Newell. | Miss Freda Frederick,
and Miss Doris Brookes.
WANTED, Feb. 17, 24, Feb. 17, 24
March 17. 24, March 17, 24.
FRED. BULMER,
Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.

HERBERT FULLER'S POWERFUL COMPANY.
"AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER."
WANTED, Feb. 24, March 3 (South), 17, 24, April 14. 28, May 5, June 2, 16, 23, July 21, 28, Aug. 18, and various on. Spring Bookings:—Portsmouth; Alex., Hull; G., Grimsby; King's, Preston; Met., Glasgow; Junc., Manchester; Leicester; Woolwich; Hip., Huddersfield; Dublin, Belfast, Watford, Halifax, Dewsbury, Dundee, &c.
Also "MOTHERLESS."
Vacant May 19, June 9, and various on.
Entire Productions Carried. Star Casts.
Wire, Met., Gateshead; write, T.R., S. Shields.

Messrs. C. Adolf Seebold's and Mat Melrose's Pantomime, "Aladdin,"
WANTED, one week, Feb. 24, once or twice nightly, between Pontypridd and Worthing, C. Adolf Seebold's "Little Red Riding Hood" Pantomime. Wanted, one week, Feb. 17, between Lowestoft and Maidstone, both companies, of over forty artistes. Magnificent scenery and dresses; breaking all records at theatres visited. Refer to Managers. Wire or write, with best offers, to C. Adolf Seebold, Theatre, Worthing.

"10.30 DOWN EXPRESS."
WANTED, April 14, 21, and Whit., to follow Nottingham, Mansfield, Worksop, Bangor, Gloucester, Dublin, and precede Aston, Smethwick, Canning Town, Hammersmith, Elephant, &c.
Horace Stanley. Royal Varieties, Rushden.

The Great Mormon Play,
"THROUGH DEATH VALLEY; OR, THE MORMON PERIL."
WANTED, Feb. 24, March 3 and 24, April 7. Third year of tour. Company of Eighteen. Everything carried.
Address, Bertram, 8, Rupert-court, London, W. Telegrams, "Bertram, Killarney, Lewisham."

WANTED, Theatres, Pier Pavilions, &c., for Wellesley Lynn's unique entertainment of mirthful, mystical, and musical recitals; six first-class artistes; several big drawing novelties. Manager, 119, Fielding-road, Bedford Park, W.

"LUCKY MISS CHANCE."
"LUCKY MISS CHANCE."
WANTED, Feb. 20 (three nights),
Feb. 20 (three nights),
Feb. 20 (three nights),
between Worthing and Margate.
Wire. Wire. Wire.
Wanted, March 6 (three nights),
follow Canterbury.
Wanted, March 10, and on, with exceptions.
Wire quickly for Feb. 20.
W. T. Ivory,
New, Maidenhead (3); Globe, Deal (3).

"HINDLE WAKES."
Now booking Summer and Autumn.
WANTED, Wanted, March 24 and 31.
All applications, Edwin T. Heys,
Mile End, Stockport.

"MILESTONES."
"MILESTONES."
"MILESTONES."
WANTED, Wanted, Feb. 24, North.
Feb. 24.
Feb. 24.
Only vacant date this year, owing to fire at Theatre Royal, Blackburn.
Wire,
Taylor Platt, Royalty Theatre.

MADGE CRICHTON in "ANN."
WANTED, March 24, Anril 7, May 12, June 2.
Haldane Crichton, Theatre, Chester.

WANTED, Wanted, First-class Theatres, May 19 and 26,
"BREWSTER'S MILLIONS."
Apply, Percy Hutchison, Grand Theatre, Derby.

WILSON HOWARD'S TOUR.
"WHAT WOMEN WILL DO FOR LOVE."
WANTED, Feb. 24 and March 24. Wire.
This, Olympia, Coalville; County T., Bangor.

"THE GIRL OF MY HEART."
Never was a play more popular.—"The Times."
WANTED, Easter, March 31 (North), April 28, and Whit and Autumn. Record business Theatre Royal, Sunderland, this week. Herbert Leonard, this, Sunderland, Next, Met., Glasgow.

THEATRES WANTED.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.'S.
MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.'S.
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MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.'S.

THE PRAIRIE OUTLAW.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

North Co. Vacant March 10, March 10.
North Co. Vacant March 10, March 10.
North Co. Vacant March 10, March 10.

South Co. Vacant Aug. 4.
South Co. Vacant Aug. 4.
South Co. Vacant Aug. 4.

Fast Booking the two Co.s Autumn.
Fast Booking the two Co.s Autumn.
Fast Booking the two Co.s Autumn.

This play has broken all records for business at the Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton. Also at other theatres.

THE WILD GIRL OF THE FOREST.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Guaranteed one of the best mounted military plays on the road.

Beautiful Uniforms, &c.

Vacant March 17, Easter
Vacant March 17, Easter.
Vacant March 17, Easter.

Only Vacant Dates until Autumn.
Only Vacant Dates until Autumn.
Only Vacant Dates until Autumn.

WAS SHE TO BLAME?

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Vacant Few Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Autumn Dates.

HER PATH OF SORROW.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Vacant Few Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Autumn Dates.

MRS. F. C. KIMBERLEY'S NEW PRODUCTION.

Production Aug. 18, at the Junction, Manchester, With the Broadhead Circuit to follow.

Title to be known later.

Another new play in active preparation.

Many thanks to Mr. Percy B. Broadhead for all his theatres.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.

Lessee and Manager, F. G. Kimberley.

Vacant March 17, Aug. 11.
Vacant March 17, Aug. 11.
Vacant March 17, Aug. 11.

Few later dates.
Few later dates.
Few later dates.

J. NEWTON COWLING'S TOUR.

THE COLLIER'S LASS.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Two companies on the road of this great success.

Both equal.

North Co. Vacant March 10.
North Co. Vacant March 10.
North Co. Vacant March 10.

South Co. Vacant Whit week.
South Co. Vacant Whit week.
South Co. Vacant Whit week.

Both companies nearly full for Autumn.
Both companies nearly full for Autumn.
Both companies nearly full for Autumn.

HER SECRET LOVER.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Vacant Few Summer Dates.
Vacant Few Summer Dates.
Vacant Few Summer Dates.

Managers needing good, sound, honest attractions, book
Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's Plays.

Write for same to
F. G. Kimberley,
Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
March 10, 17, 24,
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"GIRL WITHOUT A HOME."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
This Strong Attraction,
Aug. 4, 11, 18.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
This Powerful Play,
March 10, 17, 24,
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
Feb. 17, March 10, 17, 24.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
March 10, 17, 24,
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

BRITANNIA THEATRE,
LONDON, N.
Enormous Success
of
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
WANTED, Wanted, Big Theatre, in Large City, for next year, for production of
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
One of the greatest successes seen for years.
"The Rose Garden."
A Magnificent Stage Picture.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"A WHITE SLAVE."
"A WHITE SLAVE."
"A WHITE SLAVE."
"A WHITE SLAVE."

Have you booked the above attraction? If not, you should ask the following gentlemen why they have done so. They are good judges:—

Arthur Jefferson, W. E. Willis,
Percy Broadhead T. W. Rowe,
Francis Laidler, J. Coulson.
Dan Barnard, W. Croke,
Morris Abrahams, Wm. Coutts,
Ben Court, E. Dottridge,
H. J. Worswick, S. Rogers.

Better still, come and see for yourself, at Grand, Brighton.

WANTED, First-class Theatres.
Vacancies:—
March 31 (?),
April 7 (?), 14, (?), 21, 28,
May 12, Aug. 4, Sept. 15, 22.

Joseph Millane,
Grand, Brighton.

GEORGE N. BALLANGER'S CO.
Young Buffalo
and Caroline May Blaney,
in "KING OF THE WILD WEST.
WANTED, March 10, 31, May 5 and 12.
Frank Mundill, Grand, Plymouth (2 weeks).

"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
Shirley and Landeck's Great Success.
WANTED, March 31. April 7, 14 (?), 21, May 5 (North).
Also a few Autumn Dates open.
J. Forbes Knowles.
Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth (return).

"WHAT A MAN MADE HER."
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, immediate and future dates.
Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-st., W.C.

"THE WITNESS FOR THE DEFENCE."
WANTED, Easter (only vacancy till May).
Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-st., W.C.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN,"
and
"NANA, THE RAGE OF PARIS."
WANTED, Feb. 17, and March 3,
Easter week.
Seventh year of tour.

Miss Esmond would draw attention to the class of theatre usually played.
O.H., Blackpool (three visits); O.H., Cheltenham (two); New T., Cambridge; H.M.T., Aberdeen; T.R., York (two); Grand, Llandudno; Grand, Wolverhampton; O.H., Middlesbro' (two); O.H., Northampton; T.R., Huddersfield; T.R., Bristol (two); Metropole, Bootle; Lyceum, Newport (two); O.H., Cork (two); T.R., Norwich (two); T.R., Belfast (four); Princess', Glasgow (four).
Loie Esmond. To-day, T.R., Shotton, Durham. Feb. 10, Assembly Rooms, Malvern.

"THE INDIAN SCOUT."
WANTED, March 31, March 31. Only vacant date till Autumn. Thanks Mr. Fred Warden for offer to return next Xmas and New Year's weeks at T.R., Belfast. Geo. A. de Gray.
Feb. 10, Grand T., West Hartlepool.

"A GIRL'S GOOD LUCK."
"A GIRL'S GOOD LUCK."
"A GIRL'S GOOD LUCK."
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Wanted, Easter,
Easter,
March 31. Aug. 4, 11, 25.
E. E. Garside,
Theatre Royal, Scarboro'.

"THE BLACKGUARD OF THE QUEEN'S REGIMENT."
Star cast.
WANTED, April 14, 14, 14, 14,
E. Hill-Mitchelson,
Opera House, Northampton.

Along the line the signal ran,
There is no play like "MAN TO MAN."
WANTED, Feb. 24, March 3, Sept. 1, 15.
Lloyd and Bown, G.T., Great Harwood.

"THE OLD FOLKS AT HOME."
A Perfect Production. Refer all Theatres Visited.
WANTED, March 10, 24, onwards.
Lloyd and Bown, G.T., Great Harwood.

MR. AND MRS. WILSON BENGE'S CO.
"THE COWBOY'S REVENGE."
WANTED, March 24, March 24; vacant, Easter, March 31, onwards. Bookings: Manchester, Preston, Salford, Woolwich, Stratford, South Shields, Newcastle, &c. Letters, T.R., Swansea.

"ALIAS JIMMY VALENTINE" and
"SHERLOCK HOLMES"
WANTED, First-class Theatres, March 31 (Lancs or Yorkshire), April 7, 14, 21.
Hamilton Stewart, His Majesty's Opera House, Blackpool.

"A FATAL CROWN."
"A FATAL CROWN."
WANTED, First-class Theatres or Halls,
March 31, May 5, 12.
March 31, May 5, 12.
Record business everywhere.
Refer, Hip., Stockton; T.R., Leicester.
This week, Rotunda, Liverpool. Packed nightly.
Undoubtedly the biggest Spectacular Show Touring. Over 50 people staged.
James Bell.

WANTED, Wanted, Good Theatre, for Stock.
Twice nightly preferred.

Charles E. Bradley, Theatre Royal, Warrington.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Dates, for Xmas, 1913.

A TREMENDOUS NOVELTY.

The Entire and Actual Production of The Wonderful Fairy Christmas Play,

"SANTA CLAUS."

Invented and written by Alfred de Manby, Leedham Bantock and Harold Simpson.
Music by Theodore Holland.

From the Scala Theatre, London.

Characters:
Ting-a-ling ..... The Spirit of Yuletide
King Soot ..... An Evildoer
Flame ..... His Attendant
Tabby, Tom ..... The Two Cats
Smut, Smoke ..... The Two Sweeps
Old Mother Shipton.
The Man in the Moon.
Father Time.
Fairy Snowflake.
Peppermint Rock, Barley Sugar, Stickjaw, Liquorice ..... The Four Sweets
Kiruna, Abisco ..... Two Laplanders
The New Year,
and
Father Christmas.

Chorus of Brownies, Moonbeams, Lollipops, and Boy Scouts.

Beautiful stage settings include:—
The Realms of King Soot,
Housetop Land,
Lollipop Land,
Mother Shipton's Home in Cloudland,
and
Christmas Land.

Wonderful Kinemacolor effects include:—
Toyland,
The journey of Father Christmas and Ting-a-ling through the air in their reindeer sleigh,
Father Neptune at the bottom of the Sea,
The Rich Children's Home,
The Poor Children's Home,
The Naughty Boy's Home,
and
The Children's Hospital.

Costumes designed and executed by
B. J. Simmons and Co., London.
Wigs and Properties by Clarkson, London.
Toys by Gamage, Ltd., London.

THE ENTIRE LONDON PRESS UNANIMOUS IN THEIR PRAISE.

"Daily Telegraph":—
A decidedly happy blend of a Christmas play unfolded by means of Kinemacolor pictures, and one employing the ordinary resources of the stage. . . . The audience was delighted.

"Morning Post":—
The combination of natural and mechanical illusion was remarkably successful. . . . Sure to be popular. . . . A continual feast for the eyes. Very fine were the scenes in which Father Time put back the hands of the clock, in which Neptune and the Sea-maidens sat in a beautiful cavern at the bottom of the ocean, and in which the song and silent dance of the Moonbeans lulled Santa Claus to sleep.

"Standard":—
Nothing so strange and mysterious has ever been seen.

"Daily Chronicle":—
Altogether a most joyous fantasy, full of prettiness, tenderness, and wonder, devised with genuine feeling and imagination.

"Daily News and Leader":—
A distinct novelty. . . . A really charming production. . . . Every moment packed full of fun and brightness.

"Daily Graphic":—
A great success.

"Daily Mirror":—
A marvellous pantomime.

"Daily Sketch":—
Passed in triumph the searching criticism of youth . . . Will linger in childhood's memory for many a long day.

"Morning Advertiser":—
Pathos and humour are happily blended. The whole performance is very cleverly arranged, and is sure to prove a big draw for young and old.

"Sportsman":—
If the cheers of a well-filled house be accepted as any criterion, the production is, as it thoroughly deserves to be, a whole-hearted success. . . . Must be numbered among one of London's leading entertainments.

"Globe":—
A combination with the happiest results.

"Pall Mall Gazette":—
Very refined, amusing, and pretty. . . . Is likely to give delight to all who see it, be they juveniles or "grown-ups." . . . Was received with great applause.

"Evening News":—
Grown-up people can find in it something which will take away the burden of years and transport them back again to the happy land of Make-Believe.

"Star":—
A really charming production.

"Observer":—
Well worth a visit—or two visits.

"Sunday Times":—
We confess we were astonished. . . . A most attractive entertainment.

"Referee":—
A novel arrangement of stage play and Kinemacolor blended with the happiest results. . . . A charming fantasy.

"Reynolds's":—
A really interesting and diverting entertainment. . . . Some very remarkable and bewildering effects.

"Weekly Times":—
An enturely delightful fairy play.

"Graphic":—
Truly wonderful.

"Lady's Pictorial":—
Boys and girls should certainly insist on being taken to see Santa Claus. . . . A dainty fairy play.

"Queen":—
Of the many Christmas productions there are none that will give the children greater pleasure.

"Era":—
A most enjoyable and unique entertainment. . . . There is not a dull moment.

Apply for Vacant Dates for the coming Xmas Season to

MESSRS. ALFRED DE MANBY and LEEDHAM BANTOCK,
80-82, WARDOUR STREET, LONDON, W.

THEATRES WANTED.

GORE OUSELEY'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, Wanted Dates, for the Haunting "CINGALEE."
Whit Week! Whit Week!!
Whit Week!!! Open.

Gore Ouseley, 50, Rupert-street, W.
'Phone, Regent 2286.

WANTED, Wanted, Dates. "ANN."
The latest Criterion success, with Miss MADGE CRICHTON in the Title-rôle.

Gore Ouseley, 50, Rupert-street, W
'Phone, Regent 2286.
or
Haldane Crichton, Royalty T., Chester.

WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
Whit Week Vacant.
"THE GOLD DIGGERS; or, THE BROKEN TRAIL."
The most vivid Drama ever written.
Once or twice nightly.
Gore Ouseley, 50, Rupert-street, W.
'Phone, Regent 2286.
Wires, "Ouseley, London."

WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"TURKISH DELIGHT; or, A SULTAN FOR A NIGHT."
By Percy Ford.
A Musical Comedy Sketch in 2 Scenes

Gore Ouseley, 50, Rupert-street, W.
'Phone, Regent 2286.
Wires, "Ouseley, London."
General-Manager, E. P. Morgan.

H. MONTAGUE ASHLEY and CAMPBELL GOLDSMID Enterprises.
"WITH EDGED TOOLS"
(by arrangement with Armitage and Leigh).
WANTED, Easter week, Wanted March 31 (North or Midlands), April 21, 28, May 19 (follow Lyric, Hammersmith), Aug. 11 (follow Kelly's, Liverpool), Sept. 8, 15 (North), 29 (Midlands).
"UNDER THE CANOPY."
The Great Russo-Jewish Play, by J. James Hewson.
Production date, Aug. 25, Lyric, Hammersmith. Wanted, Sept. 1, 8, Oct. 13, 20, Nov. 10 (follow Stratford), Dec. 8 (follow Alex., Birmingham).
N.B.—"Under the Canopy" will be one of the finest productions and companies on the road. No expense will be spared to make it one of the greatest drawing plays touring. Exceptional cast of 18 Artistes, including:—
MAUD MORTON POWELL as NAOMI.
CAMPBELL GOLDSMID as GENERAL IVAN PETRAVNO.
All communications,
GRAND THEATRE, RAWTENSTALL.

"THE WALLS OF JERICHO."
"THE LION AND THE MOUSE."
"SMITH."
WANTED, Easter Week (South), for either of above plays; also April 7, to follow Watford.
Ernest E. Norris, Hippodrome, Crouch End.

GEORGE N. BALLANGER'S Latest American Production, "THE ROUND UP."
The real thing in Cowboy Melodrama.
Another success this week at the Hippodrome, Bolton.
WANTED, Big Theatres or Music Halls for the following dates:—
March 10, 17, and 24 (?),
April 28, May 5 and 12 (?),
Aug. 4, and various onwards.
A beautiful scenic production. Powerful company. Everything carried. A clear stage only required.

All communications,
Geo. E. Carleton, Hippo., Bolton.
Next, T.R., Ashton.

"I DEFY THE WORLD."
WANTED, Good Theatre March 24. Wire, Harry Bristow, 118, Great Mersey-street, Liverpool.

Grand Starring Tour.
IMPERIAL RUSSIAN BALLET.
IMPERIAL RUSSIAN BALLET.
40 Performers. Augmented Orchestra.
WANTED, Theatres, Vacant, March 3, 31, Ap. 21. Star Syndicate, 15 Gt. Russell-st., W.C.

ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Character Actor; also Juvenile Gentleman. Full particulars, photographs, E. Vivian Edmonds, 2, Buckingham House, Trinity-road, Wandsworth Common.

WANTED, Tall, Gentlemanly, Robust Actor, strong voice, for "Jimmy Valentine" and "Sherlock Holmes." Photographs, terms, references, Hamilton Stewart, His Majesty's Opera House, Blackpool.

WANTED, Juvenile Leading Man; young, good appearance; Aristocratic Old Man; both must possess good, modern wardrobe; first-class Comedian, short; photo., height, and refs. Leslie Vyner, Managers' Club, Wardour-street, W.

WANTED, Heavy Man, powerful voice, cockney character, 6ft. or over, for sketch; rehearse London. Full partics., lowest terms, &c., Box 4,323, "The Era."

WANTED, a first-class Heavy Gentleman, for Cuthbert, in "Humanity"; Rehearse Tuesday.
Address, John Lawson. 49, Binfield-rd., Clapham, S.W.

ARTISTES WANTED.

STOCK SEASONS.
WANTED, Artistes for three entire companies. All must be thoroughly used to stock. Give at least four weeks' addresses, and state where can be seen playing. Seasons commence Easter and Whit. Address, with absolute lowest terms, stating age, height, references, and enclose photo., mark envelopes "Stock." James Bell, T.R., Darlington.

FRED MAXWELL'S TOUR.
"LORD HARKAWAY" COMPANY.
WANTED, First-class Heavy Leading Gent., tall, well-built, able to box. Photos,, references, and lowest terms, to
Fred Maxwell, 228, Camberwell New-rd., S.E.
Will Mr. H. Gordon Hamilton write?

WANTED, Amateurs with talent requiring experience in Small Parts and Understudies in West-End comedies, can obtain immediate employment by communicating with Box 4,241, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, a first-class Company, touring Ireland, has Vacancy for Gentleman Amateur; no premium required if really clever; exceptional opportunity for learning the business. Apply, in first instance, with photo., Box 4,318, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Amateur Lady and Gentleman can be received by recognised actor-manager to Play Small Parts and Understudy in costume comedies. Apply, R. T. C., 23, Inglis-road, Ealing, W.

WANTED, Tenor Choristers, for Opera; must be young; with repertoire.
Also Second Bass Choristers.
Write, C. S., 318, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, Twelve Young, Pretty Ladies, for a musical comedietta; must have good voices, figures, and able to dance a little. Apply, Saturday, Feb. 8, between 2.30 and 3.30, Percy Hall, 3 Percy-street, Tottenham Court-road, or by letter to Box 4,324, "The Era."

WANTED, Miss Lilli Gale, or Stafford (Transvaal and Bristol), who was in Scotland winter 1907-8, subsequently in "The Maid and the Motor Man" Co., to receive news to her advantage. This lady probably returned to Johannesburg 1908. Will any person having slightest clue to her present whereabouts, or who was ever acquainted with her, kindly take any possible steps to notify her, and write immediately to Box 4,212. "The Era"?

WANTED, Dramatic Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTED

WANTED, immediately, for tour in South Africa, Prince, Dandini, Cinderella; also Comedians, for Page and Ugly Sisters. Lowest salary and refs. to E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Principals, Chorus, Musical Directors, &c., for next season's Pantomimes. Address, E. Dottridge, 50, Union-street, Oldham.

MISCELLANEOUS.

GRAND CIRQUE BOSTOCK.
WANTED, for France, Agent in Advance; must thoroughly understand piloting a Circus Travelling by Rail; capable of making all arrangements with various railway companies; fluent French scholar.
Knowledge of France and Circus business.
Terms and particulars to Frank Bostock, Namur House, Leek, Staffordshire.

WANTED, Good Agent in Advance for "Everywoman," to join Feb. 26 at Bristol.
Terms, references, and age, to Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class General Manager, must be well experienced in booking Theatres, Tours, also the production of large Pantomimes. Terms and references, Box 4,310, "The Era."

WANTED, Agent in Advance, to open Monday, Feb. 10. Hippodrome, Newcastle.
Wire immediately,
Sherwood,
Opera House, Wakefield.

WANTED, young Man, with good schooling (perfect spelling and good handwriting essential), to travel as Assistant and Property Man; must be temperate, reliable, and willing worker; state age, experience, terms, references. Write to Wm. Berol, Palace, Glasgow. Feb. 10, Palace, Bradford.

WANTED, Full Staffs, all lines, Variety and Picture Halls. Recent refs. and salary required; only good and reliable people write. Box 4,311, "The Era"

WANTED, to start at once, reliable Carpenter; used to twice-nightly drama, combine stage-management and billing; own tools. Age, references, and terms, to Managing-Director, Gaiety Theatre, Dundee.

WANTED, Experienced Carpenter, stock season, drama theatre, North-east. Address letters, Douthwaite, King's Theatre, Gateshead.

WANTED, Carpenter, Baggage Man, to open Feb. 24. Full particulars, terms, references, E. Vivian Edmonds, 2, Buckingham House, Trinity-road, Wandsworth Common. No interviews except by appointment.

WANTED:
THEATRE NEXT XMAS
with large holding capacity, to reproduce
ROBINSON CRUSOE,
the Phenomenally Successful Pantomime now running at the
ALEXANDRA THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
BRILLIANT CAST.
HUNDREDS TURNED AWAY AT EVERY PERFORMANCE.
The above Production can be seen any Evening.
MATINEES—MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY.
This Pantomime is far ahead, spectacularly, of any production hitherto attempted at this famous Pantomime House.
Apply LEON SALBERG, Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Bill Poster; must be experienced high ladder man; permanency for a steady, reliable man. Apply, the General Billposting Co., Ltd., Pink-lane, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, smart, young Billposter; care pony trap; comfortable, long engagement; boosers save stamps. Fred Lewis, The Grand, Joy-street, Belfast.

WANTED, a Good Bill Inspector for Lancashire Theatre. Sobriety indispensable. Terms, references, Box 4,308, "The Era."

WANTED, Re-engagement, by practical Variety Stage Manager; a man who understands his business; now working West-End Theatre. Box 4,260, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement (through disappointment), as Agent in Advance; 20 years on the road with Brothers Bostock's great Shows through England and Continent; open to arrange with good Circus or Menagerie, or any other important concern; good linguist, French, English, German, Italian, Dutch, and Flemish; first-class references. N.B.—Should like to invest £500 or £1,000 as Partner with a well-known and honest Showman for a good Road Show, Circus, or Menagerie for the Continent. C. Kettering, 27, Rue de la Poterie, Mons. (Belgium).

WANTED, Position as Manager; Theatre, Music Hall, or Touring; excellent references; present position nearly two years, with highly satisfactory results.
Charles E. Bradley, Theatre Royal, Warrington.

WANTED, Known, First-class London Producer and Stage Manager disengaged Feb. 8; amateurs coached, play produced; Musical Comedy and Comic Opera a speciality. Box 4,303, "The Era."

WANTED, to Join First-class Company or Theatre, to Learn Management; some experience. Typist, Box 4,315, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Schofield, Operator-Electrician, shortly at liberty; just concluding George Prince Film Service; 10 years' good references. 83, Garden-lane, Bootle, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, practical Carpenter; tools; abstainer; just finished 12 months' engagement; good refs.; resident or tour; theatres or fit-ups. Morgan, 39, Azenby-road, Peckham, S.E.

WANTED, Re-engagement, Wardrobe Mistress; tour preferred; thoroughly experienced; long and good references. E. C., c/o 76, High Street, South Norwood.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, smart Young Conductor (Violinist), to lead when required; state age, lowest salary, last two references; permanency to capable man; open Feb. 10. Alfred Manners, as above.

HARROGATE MUNICIPAL ORCHESTRA.
WANTED, Deputy Conductor (Violin), used to Variety; also 1st Horn, and good Accompanist, to combine Violin; only those with experience of good Orchestral Concerts need apply.
Letter, with references, to
Julian Clifford,
Kursaal, Harrogate.

WANTED, Immediately, Violin-Conductor, for steamer sailing next week.
Terms and particulars apply 415, Strand, Monday, at 3, with instruments.
Violinists and Basses also required.

WANTED, Instrumentalists (first-class), Leader-Violinist, Second Violinist, 'Cellist, and Contra-Bassist, to complete orchestra in leading provincial picture house; hours, daily 3 to 5 and 7 to 10.30, Sundays excepted. Highest standard of music required, and none but first-class men need apply.
Box 4,296, "The Era."

WANTED, for Ladies' Orchestra, first-class Leader; also Pianist; must be experienced; long engagement; hotel work. State lowest terms, Box 4,300, "The Era."

WANTED, to open immediately, good Leader; variety and musical comedy. Age, terms, and refs. to H. Bull, Musical-Director, Hippodrome, Darlington.

WANTED, Leader, to open Feb. 17; well up in variety. Refs.,
J. Peel, Hippodrome, Bury.

VIOLIN.
WANTED, first-class Leader; thoroughly experienced in varieties. Apply, with terms, experience, and references, to Tolfree, Hippo., Wakefield.

WANTED, good Violinist (leader) for pictures and catering business; good salary offered to first-class player; no other need apply. Robinson, Bandmaster, Stockton-on-Tees.

THEATRE ROYAL, HANLEY.
WANTED, Wanted, Reliable Leader.
Apply, Chas. Elphinstone.

WANTED, Leader, to commence Feb. 17; must be good performer. Apply, with refs., Sykes, Palace, Blackburn.

EMPIRE THEATRE, PRESTON.
WANTED, to open Feb. 10, 1913, Bass and Second Horn; permanency to suitable men. Apply, with references, age, etc., to Alan W. Young, General-Manager.

WANTED, First-class Experienced and Reliable First Violin and 'Cello, for high-class cinema theatre, North London; permanency for suitable men. Address, with latest references, to F. W. Purcell, Southside, Dalmeny-avenue, Tufnell Park, N. Only those in London need communicate.

WANTED, good First Violinist (lady); must be good solo and orchestral player.
Box 4,299, "The Era."

WANTED, Violinists, 'Cellists, Pianists, and Double Bass Players, for Royal Mail Liners. Apply to Enos Greene, 205, Fordwych-road, Cricklewood, N.W.

WANTED, Violinist and 'Cellist, for small band; must be thoroughly experienced in small band arrangements, English and Continental. First-class soloists and performers. Good salary; permanency. Give full particulars, Box 4,316, "The Era."

WANTED, Three first-class Violinists, used to playing to pictures; good salary given. Apply by letter to
Musical-Director,
Electric Pavilions, Ltd.,
Canadian Club Chambers, 20, Cockspur-st., S.W.

WANTED, Good Violinists and 'Cellists for Amateur Orchestra, London. Clerical or other employment found. State age and qualifications to
Box 4,307, "The Era."

WANTED, Second Violin Player, to double with a brass instrument for parade. Will Mr. Robinson, who was with us last year, write in? Address, Lord John Sanger and Sons, Ltd., Burstow Lodge, Horley, Surrey.

WANTED, for Turner Grand Opera, fortnight commencing Feb. 17, Violins, Viola, 'Cello, Flute, Second Clarinet, Oboe, Bassoon, Cornet, Trombone, and Horns. Must be fully experienced in Grand Opera.
State terms and particulars to W. R. King, The Dalston Theatre, N.E.

WANTED, First Cornet; used to pitching; terms, shares; to join at once. Reply, Band, 81, Sydney-rd., Eastbourne, Sussex.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

BANJOISTS.
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No. 2 Company.
Apply, stating if sight reader, with other qualifications, and salary required, to
Eustace Gray, Palladium.

WANTED, Young Lady Violinist; must be good Leader and excellent sight reader; permanency to a suitable artiste. Letters, photo., &c., to Box 4319, "The Era."

WANTED, immediately, for small theatre, thoroughly experienced Cornet and Drummer; state lowest terms for a long engagement. R. Macs, Pavilion, Johnstone, near Glasgow.

WANTED, a good Violinist, also Flute and Piccolo, for perm. touring weeks in a town; Feb. 10 or 17; send refs. Niblett, Mus. D., Italian Circus, Hull.

WANTED, for Swallow's International Circus, for tenting, Second Cornet, Saxhorn, Trombone, Euphonium, Double Drums; terms 30s.; Pracy write. Robt. Horrocks, Leader, 6, Nutstreet, Halliwell, Bolton.

WANTED, Clarinet and Violin, and good Euphonium, combined with Violin or Viola, for Staff Band; good band pay and engagements; double-handed men preferred. Apply to Bandmaster, Royal Marines, Deal, stating experience and qualifications.

WANTED, good Trombone; used to variety; to open Monday next. Terms, refs., L. G. Holding, Palace, Watford.

PALACE THEATRE, MAIDSTONE.
WANTED, Trombone; used to Varieties. Lowest terms to
C. J. Lomas, Mus. Dir.

WANTED, good Bombardon, to combine String Bass preferred; permanency for suitable man. Bandmaster, Town Band, Penzance.

WANTED, 'Cello, for Trio; must be first-class player, and gentleman; good musical programme; comfortable sit., and good salary. Full particulars and references. Kinema Picture Palace, Anlaby-road, Hull.

WANTED, to open Feb. 17, First-class 'Cellist; must be thoroughly experienced in high-class Musical Comedy; A.M.U. Particulars to Fred Burns, H.M. Theatre, Carlisle.

WANTED, Wanted, immediately, Viola.
Send references to
Conductor, Lyceum, Newport.

WANTED, Easter week, and week following, Municipal and Opera House Orchestra, Cheltenham, good Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Cornet, Drums, and Violin. Twice daily. No Sunday. Terms to Horace Teague, Musical Director.

WANTED, Harpist, for first-class Pleasure Steamer on the Clyde, from March 21 until end of September; share or salary.
Young,
102A, Nicolson-street, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Good Pianist, also Good Violinist, for crack Infantry Band. Must be able to read at sight. Excellent prospects for intellectual, hard-working youths. Apply for particulars, Bandmaster, 2nd Yorkshire Regt., Blackdown, Hants.

WANTED, March 1, First-class Pianist and Accompanist; one combining violin preferred; also Solo Clarinet; must be thoroughly first-class, used to symphony concert work; permanent engagement; no Sunday work; two weeks' holiday. Apply, with terms and references, to Dan Godfrey, Musical-Director, Winter Gardens, Bournemouth.

FALMOUTH.
ST. GEORGE'S HALL.
WANTED, to open Monday, Feb. 17, First-class Double Drummer, with Full Effects; Pictures and Variety; twice nightly; age, references, salary. Coms., Harold R. Woodward, General Manager.

WANTED, smart Drummer (not tymps.); used to variety; to open Monday next. Terms, refs., L. G. Holding, Palace, Watford.

SEASON 1913.
WINTER GARDENS, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Musicians, all Instruments, for Pavilion, Ballroom, and Opera House Orchestras for Easter (March 17 or 20 to 29), and for Whitsuntide, May 10 to 17; and for season from June 16 to Sept. 27. Also for short season from July 5 to Sept. 27. (Flat pitch.) Only steady and competent instrumentalists need apply.
Applications, stating experience, with references and salary required for One or Two Performances daily to be sent to
Mr. Jno. R. Huddlestone, General-Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

COUNTY ASYLUM, WHITTINGHAM, PRESTON.
WANTED, Musician-Attendants, First Violin and Viola. None but competent players need apply. Must be single, and not over 35 years of age. Wages commencing at £33 per annum, rising by annual increments of £3 to £45, and according to promotion, to £50 and £65, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform.
Apply to the Medical Superintendent.

WANTED, first-class String Orchestra of 15 for March 22, 23, 24. Apply, giving age, terms, refs., Bellerby, King's Hall, Ilkley.

WANTED, first-class Instrumentalists, Easter eight days, Whitsuntide seven days, and season July 7; twice daily. State age, lowest terms, and references, to F. H. Jepson, Musical-Director, The Palace, Blackpool.

WANTED, Solo Violinists, Pianists, 'Cellists, and Contra Bassists for Mediterranean Liners. Applicants state age, experience, and give names and addresses of two persons in good positions for references of personal character.
Apply, Messrs. C. W. and F. N. Black, Music Directors, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Permanent Engagement as Musical-Director; variety preferred; fully competent; brilliant solo violinist and pianist. Stanley Galpin, High Wycombe.

WANTED, Engagement, by Musical Director; would accept Violin or Viola; 13 years Moss-Stoll (Viola); liberty shortly. Musicus, 22, Braeval-street, Cardiff.

WANTED, by smart Continental Opera Conductor, Engagement; London preferred; over 20 years' experience in Operas, Musical Comedies; refined Pianist, Accompanist, Solo Violinist, Composer, &c. Offers and terms invited.
Box 4,291, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Conductor-Violinist, at Liberty April to October; up-to-date library; highest references. Address, Conductor, 40, Loreburn-road, Wavertree, Liverpool.

WANTED, Robert J. McDermott, well known Orchestral Composer and Conductor, First-class Theatre or Hall; tour entertained. 83, Angell-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Known, H. Briscoe Kimberley, Conductor (piano), at Liberty Feb. 17; experienced all lines. Best offers, Royal, Rotherham; next, Hippo., Warrington. Perm address, 21, Bourne-street, Dudley.

WANTED, Engagement by First-class Conductor (violin); 20 years last two engagements. Good offers invited (London only), Theatre, Varieties, or Hotel. Box 4,306, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as good 1st Violin, thoroughly reliable, good ref., experienced Variety, Musical Comedy, and Pictures, abstainer. Box 4,305, "The Era."

WANTED, Re-engagement, by First-class Violinist; any business, or deputising; highest refs., &c. Write, Violinist, 29, Northway-road, Coldharbour-lane, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement South Coast preferred, as Violinist; can combine Clarinet; experienced in all lines; steady and reliable. Apply, Box 4,301, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, experienced Lady Violinist; disengaged after Feb. 15; any business. Write, Leader, c/o Jeffreys, Circus-road, St. John's Wood, N.W.

WANTED, an Engagement, Lady Violinist; experienced orchestral player.
Violinist, 99, Waller-road, New Cross.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet; thoroughly reliable; any business; can open at once. Robson, 2, Waterhouse-terrace, Upper Kirkgate, Halifax.

WANTED, by a good, reliable Clarinet, Permanent Situation; any business. L., 79, Coteford-street, Tooting.

WANTED, Known, Bass and 'Cello Disengaged; experienced any business; London only; good refs. Cox, Railway Farm, Abbey-road, Belvedere.

WANTED, Engagement, Easter, onwards; Double Bass; young, experienced; first-class Theatre or Concert; London preferred. Write, Box 4,312, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Trombonist, disengaged through finish of season; thoroughly experienced and reliable; any business. Trombonist, Hengler's, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, good Trombone, smart all round, invites offers for Temporary or Permanent Engagements; London or away. Shepherd, 152, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, Engagement, by good and experienced Trombone, home or abroad, immediately. Address, F. Morton, 9, Colnbrook-street, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement as Bombardon; thoroughly reliable; can join at once. Address, Harry Woodage, 12, Church-street, Torre, Torquay.

WANTED, Engagement as Euphonium; Orchestral, Military, or any business; in London; high refs. Anthony, 18, Comyn-road, Clapham Junction, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Lady 'Cellist; thoroughly experienced solo and orchestral work; free from Feb. 17. Miss Harvey, 25, Avondale-avenue, Woodside Park, London.

WANTED, Engagement by Amateur 'Cellist in picture orchestra or trio; young and steady (gent.); no reasonable offer refused to gain more experience. C., 10, Graham-road, Dalston, N.

WANTED, Engagement by 'Cello; experienced; any business; in or near London preferred. 'Cello, 38, Alma-road, Wandsworth.

WANTED, Engagement, by young, experienced Flautist; any business; soloist; excellent refs. and teetotal; Liverpool, Manchester preferred. Apply, Flautist, 1, Preston-street, Middleton, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Clara Jones, Pianist (orchestral and accompanist), Disengaged; London preferred. 10, Mount-road, Wimbledon Park, Surrey.

WANTED, a first-class Orchestra Pianist seeks Engagement in hotel, restaurant, café, cinema, &c., afternoons only. L. Pianist, 47, The Crescent, South Tottenham.

WANTED, Engagement, by High-class Lady Pianiste; thoroughly experienced, Pictures, Variety, and Dramatic; preferably with sister as Relief Pianiste, combining pay box, clerical work; young, prepossessing appearance. Miss Jean Grace, Verulam, 102, Kingston-road, Teddington, Middlesex.

WANTED, Re-engagement, Pianist or Double Bass, Cinema, London district, or any business. F. C., 117, Morning-lane, Hackney, N.E.

WANTED, by Drummer, Tympanist, Glockenspiel, Xylophone, &c.; high-class refs. Wire, Gold, 94, Sclater-street, Shoreditch, E. 'Phone, London Wall 4274.

WANTED, by First-class Tympanist, Drums, Bells, with good repertoire of Glock and Xylophone Solos. Summer Engagement, or good permanency. Hardman, 66, St. Ives-road, Rusholme, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, to Picture Theatres, Mme. Walter can supply Ladies' or Gentlemen's Bands.
All experienced performers and picture players.
29, Southampton-st., Fitzroy-sq., London.

To Hydro, Hotel, and Café Proprietors.
WANTED, Known, First-class Orchestral Trio of Brilliant Musicians (Violin, 'Cello, and Piano), shortly concluding successful engagement, invite offers; extensive and up-to-date repertoire. Box 4,282, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Miss Annetta Buxton's Trio, Quartette, or Orchestra, disengaged Easter week and Summer Season; smart costumes, excellent repertoire; terms, testimonials, &c. Address, 25, St. Leonard's-rd., East Sheen, S.W.

WANTED, Known, High-class Instrumental Quartette (Ladies), Violin, Flute, Piccolo, Cello, Piano; could open Feb. 10. Rosetti, 9, Victoria-road, Perry-street, Gravesend.

WANTED, by small family of Four Instrumentalists, Picture Theatre; terms moderate. 8, Caxton-mansions, Laughton-road, Brixton.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, Bells, &c.; established 1890. Directress, Madame Nellie Baker, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone, 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Known, Miss Dorothea Vincent's celebrated Cremona Ladies' Orchestras; three to forty performers; smart uniform. 8, Grafton-square, Clapham, S.W. 'Phone, 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, Mme. Winternitz, Ladies' Orchestras, Trios, Quartettes, or Individual Musicians Supplied at shortest notice; immense library, brilliant music. 31, Alexandra-road, Birmingham.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTED.

WANTED, for Wild Australia, Tenting season commencing Easter Monday, Rough Riders, Stock Whip Crackers, Lasso Experts, Boomerang Throwers, Aboriginals, or Maoris; send lowest terms, and photographs if possible. I also require Eight Boy Scouts, capable of doing quick drill, for which we offer 30s. per week each; also Sharp Shooters. Reply by letter to F. Ginnett, 300, Kennington Park-road, S.E.

WANTED, for Buff Bill's Grand Circus and Menagerie, Artistes in all lines; something new and sensational, with drawing power, to suit Ireland; also Full Band; comfortable engagement to sober and attentive people. Full particulars, Buff Bill's Circus, 2, Kenilworth-street, Newtownards-road, Belfast.

WANTED, for Swallow's International Circus, tenting season 1913, Ground Acts; those people doing two acts preferred. Address, 6, Thornley-st., Wolverhampton.

TOM FOSSETT'S CIRCUS, TENTING.
WANTED, Circus Artistes, Hand-balancers, Acrobats, &c., useful people, and bandsmen; no fancy salaries; money sure. Lowest first letter. Fossett, Henley-in-Arden.

WANTED, at once, Single Young Man; good Knockabout, Gymnastic Tumbler.
Full particulars, age, height, weight, lowest salary, Box 4,132, "The Era."

WANTED, Circus Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, the World to Know, the Three Royal Ohmys have made the greatest success ever made by any Riders at the Royal Agricultural Hall, London.
The Royal Ohmys wish to thank Sir Robert Fossett for the great kindnesses they have received from him during their Happy Engagement, and wish him and his family a successful Summer Season.
The Royal Ohmys will shortly be at liberty.
Note.—Claude Ohmy returns thanks to Robert Fossett, jun., for the handsome diamond pin and stud he presented to him on last Monday. Look out for the new sensation. Address,
The Royal Ohmys, Agricultural Hall, London.

WANTED, Known, Rollo, Sensational Slack Rope Artiste, now at Liberty. Address, Evans' Carnival, Tollcross, Edinburgh.

JACK G. SILVANO.
JACK G. SILVANO.
WANTED, Known, the Funniest Cyclist on Earth is vacant for Tenting Season. A real laughing success. Best offers. Feb. 3, Empire, Royston, Yorks. Feb. 10, Palace, Normanton, Yorks. Perm. add., 20, California-st., Belfast.

WANTED, by Steckel Rider, with own horse; also Four Kels, Novelty Pot-pourri, vac. summer season. Perm., 19, Kaye-street, Bradford.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED

GLASGOW PANOPTICON AND IBROX PALACE.

WANTED, for the above hall, strong and attractive Specialities, Good Comediennes, Sisters, Comedians, &c. Full particulars first letter, list of bookings, lithos, if any, to
A. E. Pickard, Panopticon, Glasgow.

PALACE, DURHAM. On the Main Line.
WANTED, Artistes, Specialities, and Novelties, for immediate and future dates. T. C. Rawes, Proprietor.

NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
WANTED, Big Star Attractions, on salary, or to find complete programme on share.
Arthur Carlton, New Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, Artistes, all lines, Feb. 17, one week. Also for other dates. Can offer suitable acts 30 to 50 weeks. Sure money, award contract, comfortable engagements, no commission.
Communicate, with full list of bookings, permanent address, terms, &c.,
The Dayton Family, Royal Pavilion, Mossley, Lancs.; Feb. 10, Recreation Hall, Ltd., Millom, Cumberland. Artistes having been with us before also apply. P.S.—No prepaid wires and no stamped envelopes please.

WANTED, for Fêtes and Galas, Whit Monday, onwards, Big Specialities, Acrobats, Gymnasts, Artistes doing Two Acts, also Variety Artistes for immediate dates. Edgar Stebbings, 28, Egerton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Big Tops, shares or salary, Artistes all lines, Feb. 17, onwards. Can offer 10 weeks, journeys short. Kennedy Circuit, Empire, Smethwick.

WANTED, Several Big Tops, for Feb. 10, 17, 24, March 3, on, for Provinces.
Also Big Novelties and Comedy Acts New to South Wales.
Full list Bookings, Lithos, &c.
Will Lund's Agency, 197, Edge-lane, Liverpool.
Wires, "Comedy." 'Phone, 682 Royal.

WANTED, Variety Artistes, in all lines, coming North, to send vacant dates and turns, and half-dozen blank memos, to Anderson's Agency, 6, Gt. Clyde-st., Glasgow.

NEW THEATRE, DUMFRIES.
WANTED, good Variety Turns; absolute refinement essential. See also "Companies Wanted" column. Apply, John Darlison, General-Manager.

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY,
38, Crasster-road, Brixton, London, S.W.
WANTED, Acts of good standing, the bigger the better, for early dates.
Terms (actual lowest) first letter, or useless writing. Full list bookings, and lithos.

FRANK COYLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Star Novelties, Specialities, Freaks, Comedy Acts, all lines,
Feb. 17, 24, March 3, 10, 17.
1, Cross Flatts-drive, Beeston, Leeds.
'Phone, 4195.
Telegrams, "Alarm, Beeston, Yorks."

WANTED, for Great Variety Competition, £1 Prize, Turns for Palace, Battersea, Monday afternoon; Foresters, Thursday afternoon; Bow and Sadler's Wells, Friday night. State hall you wish to appear to Competition Manager, Sadler's Wells Theatre, Islington.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED

WILL COLLINS AND COMPANY.
WANTED, Big Star Acts, Big Comedy Acts, Big Speciality Acts, Big Comedy Sketches,
Salary or sharing, for the Hippodrome, Exeter.
Will Collins and Company, Broadmead House, Panton-street, S.W.

THE EMPIRE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, for Immediate and Future Dates.
Stars and Novelties.
All Lines.
Nothing too big.
Share or certainty.
All communications to W. K. Chatto, Manager, Empire, Middlesbrough.

CHRIS TOWLER
(Birmingham Stage Agency),
138, Bristol-road, Birmingham.
WANTED, Star Acts for first-class provincial halls, also Smaller Acts of Every Description.

1913-4 PANTOMIME 1913-4 SEASON.
Wanted, Artistes, all lines, for resident and touring pantomimes.
Wanted, First-class Theatre for season 1913-4 for one of this year's Biggest Pantomime Successes.
This being a residential office, interviews by appointment only.
Telephone, South 168.

WANTED, Big Tops and Attractions, immediate dates, and Artistes of all kinds. Neiman's Agency, 108, Strand, London.

HARRY LEATON'S AGENCY,
575, Argyle-street, Glasgow.
Wires, "Cockney, Glasgow."
'Phone, 1075 Charing Cross.
WANTED, Big Star Acts, Big Comedy Acts, and Artistes of every description, for Feb. 17, onwards. Send full particulars, list of bookings, sample printing (if any), to the above. Interviews by appointment only.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, for March 10, Big Sensational Attractions, Mystic Novelties, Spectacular Scenic Productions, Daring and Sensational Aerial Acts, Big Musical Shows, Pantomimical and Musical Comedy Sketches, and anything New, Novel, and Original. Also Acts of every description for the following dates:—March 17, 24, and 31, April 21, May 5, 19, onward. Address, with lowest terms, to Manager, Palace, Sunderland.

INTERNATIONAL GENERAL EXCHANGE, LTD., Dramatic and Variety Agents.
WANTED, Known, Artistes in all lines are invited to send in vacant dates to the above Agency at 3, McCormick-st., Manchester.

WANTED, experienced, all-round Lady Dancer; high salary, long contract. Apply, with full particulars (letters only), state age, height (without shoes), salary, photos., to H. Plantagenet, 29, Lillie-rd., West Brompton, London.

WANTED, immediately, smart young Lady Acrobatic Dancer, for Speciality Act; good salary.
Apply, Box 4,292, "The Era."

WANTED, at once, young man, all-round Tumbler and Knockabout, for Comedy Acrobatic Act.
Apply, Box 4,293, "The Era."

WANTED, Three Smart Girls; must be able to do Buck and Schot Dancing, and have good strong voices; rehearse immediately; long engagement. Also Want Several Smart, Young Comediennes and Dancers; bright, nice dresses, on and off. Apply, at once, to Mr. Sinclair, 118 Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, a good Comedy Tumbler; must be steady, reliable, and sober in business, or no good writing; long engagement to the right party; state lowest terms, tricks, &c. Josh Clifton, c/o Six Ceylons, Palace T., Leicester.

WANTED, at once, one or two clever Juveniles for Troupe; must be experienced, have good voices. Dancers preferred. Give full particulars, experience, height, and photo, &c., to H. Cookson.
c/o Will Lund, 197, Edge-lane, Liverpool.

PALACE THEATRE, READING, and NEW THEATRE, NORTHAMPTON.
WANTED, Known, all Communications should be addressed to W. T. Simmons, Managing-Director, Palace Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS

ALFRED WELLESLEY
in
"UNCLE'S COURTSHIP."
WANTED, Feb. 17, precede Chatham, March 3, 10, 17, follow Chatham, precede Sheffield Emp.
Address, Palace, Cork.

WANTED, Known, Tom Merry, Comedian, Vacant Feb. 17. This. Feb. 3, Palace, Ramsbottom; Feb. 10, Empress, Brixton; Feb. 24, Playhouse, Evesham.

WANTED, Known, Charles Crayford, "The Kentish Mystic," vacant Feb. 10. P.A., 46, Watling-st., Bexley Heath, Kent. A novel act.

WANTED, March 3, 17, 31, by GULLIVER, and the Doll with the Laugh.
Comedy Ventriloquial Act, with strong drawing power.
Address, Palace, Burnley.

WANTED, Known, Ted Young, Versatile Comedian, vacant Feb. 17 and 24; offers invited. Grand Theatre, Accrington.

WANTED, Feb. 24, by Harry Keeble, novel Ventriloquist. Gladys Wells, England's premier Chorus Vocalist; always reliable. Mon., Westminster, Liverpool (return).

WANTED, Feb. 17, 24, and later dates, the Dunvilles. Great Comedy, Musical, Vocal, Dance, and Conversational Spectacular Star Act. Address, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, Known, Peter Adair, The World's Wonder (aged 70), Hero of many 1,000-miles road walks and athletic feats; the proud possessor of 21 letters and telegrams from Royalty. Peter has drank Younger's Edinburgh ales for 50 years and feels Younger than ever. Peter longs to walk any Teetotaller 40 years Younger than himself, from Land's End, Cornwall, to John o' Groats.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS

STUART CLEVELAND and CO.
STUART CLEVELAND and CO.
WANTED, April 21, May 19, 26, for that successful heart-to-heart Sketch, "A POLICEMAN AND A MAN."
"A POLICEMAN AND A MAN."
"A POLICEMAN AND A MAN."
By Stuart Cleveland.
Enthusiastic reception.
Enthusiastic reception.
Laughs, tears, and cheers
Laughs, tears, and cheers
on Return Visit to Barnard's, Chatham.
on Return Visit to Barnard's, Chatham.
The Best Domestic Sketch
The Best Domestic Sketch
on the Boards, Bar None.
on the Boards, Bar None.
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STUART CLEVELAND
is always supported
is always supported
by a First-class Company.
by a First-class Company.
Apply to the Principal Agents; or Stuart Cleveland, Hippodrome, Southampton (Return).

WANTED, Fetes and Galas, Season, 1913, by the Three Hodgunis, Continental Stage Aerial Gymnastic Wonders; also Mlle Deton et Cie., Juggling Balancing Act, on Aerial Slack Wire; splendid apparatus; attractive printing; full co. if required. M. Hodgini, Manager, 17, Lime-grove, Henshaw-road, Small Heath, Birmingham.

WANTED, March 17, other dates, Wales preferred, Chard's Dogs.
48, Boston-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Feb. 24, North, by Atlas-Vulcana Troupe, World's Greatest Athletic Artistes. Feb. 10, Empire, Camberwell.
P.A., The Hollies, Fulham.

WANTED, by the Four Stanlinis, Musical Speciality, Feb. 17. This week, St. George's Hall, Falmouth; next, P.H., Briton Ferry.

WANTED, Monday (Feb. 10), Feb. 17 and 24, through disappointment. Wire Folay and Francis, Hurricane Comedians, Hip., Preston. Sure success anywhere.

PIERROT WANTEDS.

MINEHEAD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
OPEN-AIR ENTERTAINMENTS.
WANTED, offers for the Privilege of giving Entertainments during the coming season from a site on the Sea Front, Minehead. Offerers prepared to provide specially high-class form of Entertainments will receive special consideration. Particulars and conditions of the Licence may be obtained upon application to me. Sealed tenders, endorsed "Entertainments," stating amount offered and nature of Entertainment, must be sent to my office not later than Thursday, Feb. 20, 1913. The Council do not bind themselves to accept any offer. By order, L. C. Webber-Incledon, Clerk to the Council, 3, Bancks-street, Minehead, Somerset, Jan. 27, 1913.

Pierrot Pitch, at Craigvara Pleasure Grounds, Portrush.
WANTED, to Let, for Summer Season, 1913.
Proposals will be received up to March 1 by Clerk of Council, Portrush, from whom further particulars can be obtained.

WANTED, First-class Concert Parties for Scotland, as follows:—June 23, 30, July 14, 21, Aug. 11, 18, 25, Sept. 1, 8, 15: Write, with full particulars, Charles Boult, Rock Ferry.

PIERROT WANTS.

WANTED, Summer Bookings for few Vacant Weeks, Ethel M. Kemish, soprano (Chappell Ballad Concerts). Please note change of address, 54, Dalmeny-road, Tufnell Park.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE BRITISH ROUNDABOUT PROPRIETORS AND SHOWMEN'S UNION.
IMPORTANT MEETING at LYNN MART, Wednesday, Feb. 19, at 2.30 p.m., at the WOOLPACK'S HOTEL.
WANTED, all Members to attend. Urgent Business.
By Order of the Executive.

WANTED, Showmen to know that the following is a complete List of Fairs, Feasts, and Wakes in England, Scotland, and Wales for February:—

England.

8 Nantwich (7,816)	14 King's Lynn (21,140)
13 Beaconsfield (2,511)	24 Frome (10,901)
13 Harrogate (33,706)	28 Downham (2,407)
14 Biggleswade (5,375)	28 Heywood (26,698)
14 Dorchester (9,842)	

WANTED, Staff, for Auction Mart; Tip-Top Hand-seller; references required; Bloom's, Greenwood's, or Taylor's trained men preferred.
Box 4,290, "The Era."

WANTED, Handseller and Plankman; singer preferred.
Lavis, Auction Mart, Houghton-le-Spring.

WANTED, good Marionettes or Waxworks, on Shares; also Freaks or Quick-showing Novelties for best position High-street, Sunderland; shop, two floors, each 26 by 90 feet; all games let; space for one or two fancy stalls. Lozell, Pastime Exhibitions, Arcade House, Whitley Bay, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Side Show, open Easter, best position, Southport; share.
Address, Milton, 77, Virginia-street, Southport.

WANTED, a Quick-Showing Novelty for South America, immediately; also Two African Women, One Fire King, and Drummer. Write full particulars, save delay. Bill Anderson. Write, address, Mme. Casselo Roberts, c/o Consulate Americano, Buenos Aires, South America.

WANTED, quick, constant showing Novelties. State vacant dates, salary, and full particulars. Manager, 262, Edgware-road, London.

WANTED, by Expert Palmist, &c., Engagement, rental or shares, exhibitions preferred. Write, Madame H., 60, Church-road, Willesden, N.W.

WANTED, to Sell, 100,000 sheets of beautiful Pictorial Printing, suitable for Showman; bargain prices. Apply to Leon Vint, 142, Long Acre, London, W.C.

WANTED, to Let on Hire, large Distorting Mirrors; Exhibitions, &c.
Address, Milton, 77, Virginia-street, Southport.

WANTED, to Let, temporarily, Shop, for Auction Sales; main street of Doncaster.
Rent £6 per week.
Alfred Stubbs, Askern, Doncaster.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, to Sell, Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, Love Letters, Fortunes, Eyes, Astrology, Comic Cards, X-Rays.
Maurice, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Second-hand; Card Delivery. Mother Shipton's; marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. Maurice, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines; the latest Lovelties and best money-takers. Wormald, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London, W. Established 1887.

WANTED, to Sell, ½d. and 1d. Slot Automatic Machines, all kinds, bargain lists free. Husband, Wife, Baby, Eye, Hair, Fortunes, Astrology Cards, 5s. 1,000. Love Letters, 9s. Leslie, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead Heath, N.W.

WANTED, Wanted, to Sell, large Variety Latest and Exclusive Designs. Slot Machines, new and second-hand.
Minerva Co., 3, Gloucester-st., Southampton-row, London, W.C.

WANTED, to Let, in Exhibition, Argyle-street, Glasgow, best position in Scotland, opening Feb. 15, for two months, Spaces for Pens, Dumps, Microscopes, Jewellery, Palmist, &c.; also Games; rental or shares, or we would engage good workers for same. Write, Spinks, 129, Renfrew-street.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era," and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, by well-known Rink Manager, Appointment in England or abroad. Used to organisation and management of first-class concerns. Good Accountant and French Linguist. Exceptional references. Would undertake Variety Management or Pictures.
Directeur, Grand Skating Rouennais, Rouen, France.

WANTED, to Sell, about 400 pairs Winslow's Skates; in good condition. Also Plimpton's Electric Surfacing Machine, with cable complete.
Directeur, Grand Skating Rouennais, Rouen, France.

WANTED TO SELL.

JOHN HART'S "CINDERELLA" PANTOMIME.
WANTED, to Sell, this Magnificent Production, now running with enormous success at the Theatre Royal, Sheffield. Right beautiful scenes, painted by D. G. Hall. Costly ball-room and other dresses. A new and beautifully designed Electric Coach. Gorgeous Transformation Scene. Suitable for a big theatre, or could be easily toured.
Apply, Beaumont, Theatre Royal, Sheffield.

WANTED, Wanted, to Sell, John Hart's Present Production of "DICK WHITTINGTON," now running at the Theatre Royal, Manchester.
The pantomime is remarkable for its lavish mounting.—Vide Manchester Press.
Apply, Edmonstone Shirra.

WANTED, Wanted, to Sell, Florrie Forde's Pantomime, "BABES IN THE WOOD."
Now playing with enormous success.
The most Gorgeous Scenery and Dresses Touring.
All in first-class condition.
Reason for selling, producing new title, new production, next season.
May be seen at the Grand, Bolton, week of Feb. 10.
Prince's Theatre, Bradford, week of Feb. 17.

WANTED, to Sell, a "Cinderella" Production. Now on tour.
Can be seen next week at Pal., Oldham.
Address, E. Dottridge, 50, Union-street, Oldham.

WANTED, to Sell, American and Australian Rights in the Historical Pageant Play "Glastonbury; a Play of the Olden Times," by W. T. Saward, as produced at Royal Court Theatre, London, and now touring in provinces (see "Era," May 18, 1912, and Jan. 25, 1913). Costumes, music, dances. Play published by Dent, London, 1s. net. W. T. Saward, Bolnhurst, St. Neots.

WANTED to Sell, a Freehold Picture Palace; London suburb; every facility; only wants seeing. Price £2,250. Apply, Box 4,228, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Freehold Theatre, as a Going Concern, including all fittings, fixtures, and scenery. Holds Full Licenses, Excise, Dramatic, Music, and Dancing (cinematograph licence not applied for). Population, 42,000. Garrison town. Only theatre in town. Opposition, two picture shows and one hippodrome. Seats, roughly, 1,000. Electric light, gas, and heating. Apply, Box 4,320, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, cheap, Performing Irish Terrier, 12 months old; Somersault, &c.; 9 Tricks; free and smart worker; used to stage; a bargain. Ingram, James-road, Blaengarw, S. Wales.

SEATING, SEATING.
WANTED, to Sell, 800 Tip-up Seats, 18in. centres, with gold bronzed standards and arm rests, birch frame, fitted with 3-ply spring centre, metal pivot sockets, padded flock seat, upholstered with Crimson Utrecht or Lister's Plush, 6in. stuff over curved back, roll edge banded and studded seat; price, any quantity, 5s. 3d. each. 400 ditto, without arms, at 4s. 9d. each. 500 Genuine Pegamoid Tip-up Arm Rest Chairs, as above, at 4s. 3d. each. 400 ditto, without arms, 3s. 9d. each. I have a large quantity of the above with 20in. centres, and can be had at the same price per chair. 90 Lengths Tip-up Pit Seating, each length 5ft. long, with upholstered seat and back, with Genuine Crimson Pegamoid Leather (not cloth); seat 9 by 11, back 5 by 1, with oak beading on top button back; price for any quantity 1s. 10d. per foot. Any length altered free to suit clients' plan or measurements. 120 Lengths ditto, 4ft. 6in. long instead of 5ft., same as above. Both lots have gold enamel standards of a strong heavy pattern. Additional Standards, 2s. 6d. each. Sample sent on application to intending purchasers. POLLARD, 26, Sutton-street, Aston, Birmingham. Telegrams, "Rescata, Birmingham."
The whole of the seating guaranteed brand new and warranted for 12 months.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Stage Fit-up, including proscenium front, about 24ft. square, with opening 17ft. high by 21ft. wide. Frame fit-up allowing a depth of about 14ft. Proscenium wings, act drop, and two side rostrums for extending the stage are also included. For further particulars apply Secretary, Royal Academy of Music, York Gate, Marylebone-road, N.W.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up to date.
The Bendon Trading Co., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, this Gets the Money! Flint's Porcupines are proving a card, and about all that gets my show the money, writes Walter Tenney, Pavo., Ga., Jan. 31, 1910.
Decide now to have Flint's Porcupines to help you to the bigger business, patronage, more money. Linwood Flint, Porcupine Farm, North Waterford, Maine, U.S.A.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, Music Rolls for Harper's Orchestrion Organ; buy or exchange. Apply, with particulars, to Box 4,314, "The Era."

WANTED, to Purchase, good Second-hand Tip-up Chairs, or open to receive quotations for new; those in sections of 5 or 6 suitable for moving about preferred.
Write full particulars as to price, quantity, and where can be seen, to Box 4,283, "The Era."

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, to Let, "A Soldier and a Man," "Destroyer of Men," Sutton Vane, Herbert Leonard, Frank Harvey Dramas. Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

WANTED, to Let (printing by David Allen), an Intensely Strong Drama, by Nita Rae.
Address, 15, Tabley-road, Tufnell Park, N.

WANTED, to Let, "When There's Love at Home"; Production, Feb. 10, Coliseum Theatre, Birmingham. Address, Maud Hildyard, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Known, the Great Dramas, "THE GRIP OF IRON" and "THE LIGHTHOUSE ROBBERY," to be Let, for Stock or Tour.
Mrs. E. H. Knight, 41, Trafalgar-ter., Swansea.

WANTED, to Let, Powerful New Sketch (Balkan uniforms); Bill-topper in good hands; production Feb. 17. Box 4,313, "The Era."

WANTED, to Let, Dates in March, and onwards, Bycullah Athenæum, Enfield; any kind of good-class entertainment; scenery, electric lighting. Apply, Manager.

WANTED, Wanted, to Let, for various dates, finest position in the city, Triangle Hall, Clifton, Bristol. Holding capacity 6,000 to 8,000. Suitable for Exhibitions, Promenade Concerts, &c.
Apply, E. HARRIS, Sole Lessee, 165, Cheltenham-road, Bristol.

VICTORIA PIER, BLACKPOOL.
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WANTED, Known, Tenders are invited for the sole privilege of placing automatic machines on the pier for the coming season. Address, Manager.

WANTED, Advertising Rights in Theatres and Picture Palaces; Curtains and Slides.
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WANTED, Partner, to join well-known music hall artiste, to produce novel act; advertiser can influence bookings; good amateur entertained; genuine opportunity. Box 4,297, "The Era."

WANTED, Partner (working or sleeping), by Illusionist; previous experience not necessary; business taught; principals only dealt with. Address, Box 4,298, "The Era."

WANTED, by Comedian, Smart Young Lady as Partner in Comedy Sketch (two-handed and quite novelty); must be prepared to invest £30 for half-share; genuine opportunity. State age, height, &c., all particulars, Box 4,295, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Man, under 8 stone in weight, good hand-balancer, to become partner if approved of. Apply, Evan Lewis, 103, Markfield-road, Tottenham, N.

WANTED, by Author of Several Successful Musical Comedies, a Partner, Active or Sleeping. Capital, £200. Every inquiry courted. Every reasonable guarantee given and required.
Address, Box 4,321, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, a well-known Comedian, with big comedy sketch ready for production, requires Financial Partner. Advertiser has booking influence; guarantee good return. Prefer another artiste, or good business man. Letters, Box 4,317, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, advertiser, with small capital, wishes opportunity to invest as Working Partner in theatre, music hall, or touring co. Box 4,304, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Gent, would Finance Small Sketch or other Music Hall Turn or other matter; not active; interview London; principal only; state amount wanted.
Write, Turn, C/o Gould's, 54, New Oxford-street, W.C.

WANTED, Professional (not amateur), through illness to take Share in Renowned Academy; £80; accept deposit, balance from share. Box 4,322, "The Era."

WANTED, Partner, with small capital, by expert Illusionist; experience not necessary. Apply, Beresford, 8, Kellett-road, Brixton, London, S.W.

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WANTED, Known, Quick Printing; 50 Cards, 6d.; 100 Memos, full size, 1s. 8d.; Photo Block and 100 Memos, 6s. 6d.; stamp for samples. RIVETT, 25, Oakley-street, Waterloo-road.

WANTED, Known, Vent., Punch, Marionette Figures and Shows. Professor Bourne, 49, South Esk-road, Forest Gate, London, E.

WANTED, Known, Messrs. Sherwood and Co. would be glad if Mr. Basil Horsfall would Communicate immediately with them to Opera House, Wakefield.

EVANS, WILLIAM GEORGE.
Communicate immediately with his wife re Book. 99, Farnworth-street, Liverpool.

PAGEANT COSTUMES for Disposal.
British, Saxon, Norman, Dane.
Particulars on application to
C. J. Rose, 227, High-street, Exeter.

BOROUGH OF HYTHE, KENT.

SITE FOR PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENTS.

The Town Council desire to

LET ON LEASE

for a term of 21 years, at a rent of £12 10s. per annum, a plot of land for the erection of a Building for Public Entertainments.

The land abuts on South-road, Hythe, and has a frontage thereto of 60ft., with a depth of 95ft. The land is in close proximity of the sea front, and has an access therefrom.

Conditions of letting, together with stipulations as to the building to be erected on the site, may be obtained on application to the undersigned.

Applications, endorsed "Land for Public Entertainments," must be posted so as to reach me not later than noon on Wednesday, the 19th day of February, 1913.

BERNARD C. DRAKE,
Town Clerk.

Town Clerk's Office,
Hythe, Kent.
28th January, 1913.

WORTHING SEASON BAND COMMITTEE

INVITE TENDERS

For

MILITARY BAND,

In Uniform, of **20** performers including Conductor, for a period of 10 weeks commencing July 5, 1913.

Tenders exceeding £65 per week will not be entertained.

Applications, stating composition of Band, must be sent to the Secretary, Mr. R. Vickers, Municipal Offices, Worthing, on or before February 22, 1913.

CITY OF BATH.

BAND FOR SUMMER SEASON.

THE BATH CITY COUNCIL are prepared to receive

TENDERS

for the provision of a Band to give outdoor Concerts during the Summer Season.

Particulars and Conditions of tendering may be obtained on application to the undersigned.

FREDK. D. WARDLE,
Town Clerk.

Guildhall, BATH.
30th January, 1913.

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Apply, the Rev. the Warden.

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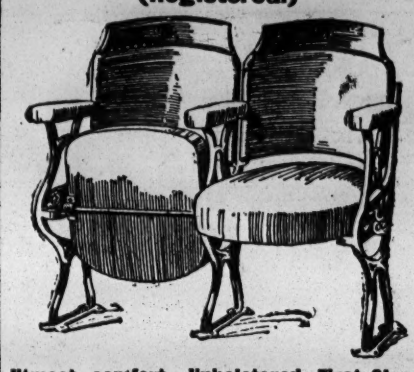

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Ten Moroccan Arabs.
Theatre Royal, Goole.

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The greatest Comedy Animal Act in the business. Vacant Feb. 24. Monday, Hippo., Aldershot.

ATLAS and the Beautiful VULCANA Troupe. The only Champion Lady Athletes. Empire, Camberwell. Require Feb. 24 (North).

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Sailed Jan. 23 for South America.
Coms. to Sherek, 17, Lisle-street, London.

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BENTLEY'S VARIETY AGENCY, 163, Brixton-rd., S.W. Telegrams, "Yeltnob, London." 'Phone, 1308 and 1309 Brixton.

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Resting.
The Manor House, Macduff, N.B.

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Address, Via Sapri, No. 9, Spezia, Italy.

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Belle Vue Hotel, Whitegate-drive, Blackpool.
Late of Bradford.

BRENTON, SISTERS.
Feb. 10, Palace, Blackpool.
Business Agent, Edgar Stebbings, Manchester.

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Musical, Dramatic, and Variety Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

BU-VAL. The Happy Dutchman.
Feb. 3, E.T., Prudhoe. Feb. 10, Queen's Palace, Shipley. Vacant Feb. 17.

CLARK, MASTER HARRY.
Light Comedian and Dancer. Feb. 10, King's, Tooting; Feb. 17, Argyle, Birkenhead. Wanted, North, Feb. 24 and March 3. 'Phone 2207 Brixton. Worland S. Wheeler.

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"A Policeman and a Man."
Hippodrome, Southampton.

CLIFFORD, CHARLES, C.D.D., the Renowned Harpist and Entertainer, on Tour. 15, Priory-gardens, Highgate, London, N.

CONROY, OLIVER. A Comedian.
One of the Big Hits of the Panto., Grand T., Stalybridge. Vac., May 21, May 5, 12.

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'Phone, 4195. Telegrams, "Alarm, Beeston, Leeds."

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Telegrams, "Darnleyism, London." 'Phone, 1784 Brixton. General Manager, Fred Bronte, 38, Stockwell Park-road, Clapham.

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A pronounced success as Abdallah in Harry Burns' "Forty Thieves." Next, Hip., Newcastle.

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Recreation Hall, Millom, Cumberland. With Own Vaudeville Company. Vacant Feb. 17 (one week).

DOYLE and GIBSON, Comedians.
Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's "Dick Whittington." Feb. 10, Lyric, Liverpool.

DOYLE and MASSEY, Comedians, in New Act. Singing, Dancing, and Comedy Juggling. Vacant March 10 and 24. This, T.R., Middlesbrough. Next, Empire, York.

DRUMMER GIRLS (SIX).
Continued success.
Feb. 10, Palace, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

ELECTRA, LA BELLE.
Dr. Bodie's Electro Hypnotic Medium.
Gigantic success, King's Theatre, Greenock, N.B.

ELLIOTT SAVONAS, THE.
Musical Marvels.
Feb. 17, Empire, Shepherd's Bush.

GERALD, VIOLET. The Ideal Boy.
Monday next, Empire Theatre, Ashbourne.
Booked by Edgar Stebbings' Agency.

GREENLEES, THE (5), in Novel Act, "On a Holiday." Big hit, Lyceum T., Govan. Coms., Steve Smith and Harry Leaton.

HALES, LILLIE. Comedienne and Expert Dancer. This, Grand, Stalybridge. Next, Hippo., Stoke-on-Trent. St. Clare's "Aladdin."

HARRIS, WILL, the Nimble Comedian and Dancer. This, Q.T., Farnworth. Next, G.T., Accrington. Vac. Feb. 17, March 24.

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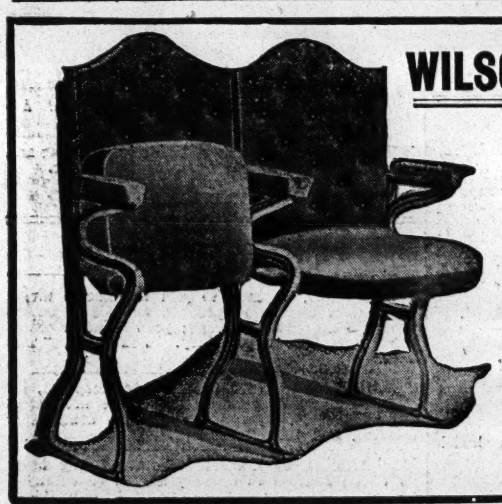

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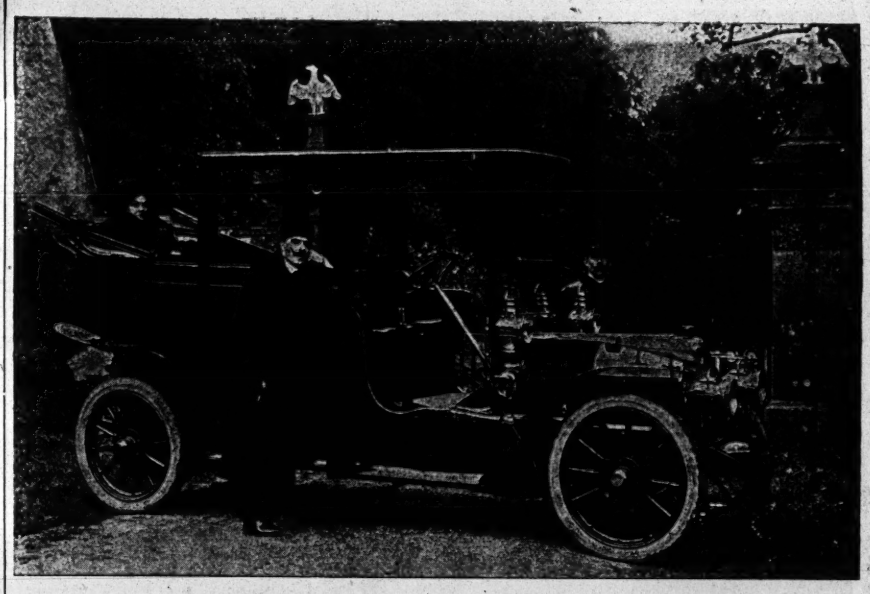

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Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Archie Naish, Walter Bellonini, Will Hay, Bella & Bijou, Campbell & Barber, Lona Wayne, Bioscope, Amos Howard, Child Trio.

PANOPTICON, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for :—

Knowles & Bowles, Loch & Lomond, Pictures.

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Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Les Miserables, Ethel Entwistle, Pictures.

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Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Excelsior Troupe, Francis & Alfred, Weston & Lynch, La Pia, Gertie Gitana, Bioscope, Brown & Nevarro, Mabel Sinclair, Harry Bedford.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Albert Rees, Sabel Fern & Co., Dort & Leonard, Joe Maddern & Co., Vittorio & Georgetto, George Mozart, Sisters Lyndon, Grey & White, Van Der Koors.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Thora, Roland Bros., George Rae, Bioscope Russell Trio, Real Ragtimers, Ethel Eden, L'Incognita, Woodward's Seals, The Rawsons.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Paulhan Team, Howard & Harris, Wilfred Burnand, Tom Costello, Whit Cunliffe, Bi-Ber-Ti, The Harlequinaders, Lillie Farrer, Bioscope, Romaine.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Great Weiland, Gwennie Llewellyn, Friend & Downing, Six Bros. Luck, Bioscope, Harry Fields, Three Cape Girls, Wullie Walker, Billie Matchette.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Resident-Director: Mr. Richard Thornton.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Messrs. Day & Lauri's Pantomime "Dick Whittington."

EMPIRE THEATRE, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Harry Blake, The Famous Craggs, Real McKays, Eugene Stratton, Edie King, Fred Russell, Dora Lyric, Bioscope, Tom Jones.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Will Van Allen, Olive Armidale, Harry Grey, Anna Dorothy, Wilkie Bard, Doughty & Laney, Edis & Lupino, Bert Symes, Bioscope, Keen & Waller.

The following are booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Managing-Director: Mr. Richard Thornton.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

The Eight Astis, Speedwell, Jock McKay, Ferry, The New Macks, Emerald & Dupre, Bioscope, &c.

Artistes are requested to send all Bill Matter for this Hall Direct to Empire Theatre, Sunderland.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Managing-Director: Mr. Richard Thornton.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Cooper & Lait, Dave Poole, Two St. Johns, Pictures.

Artistes are requested to send all Bill Matter for this Hall Direct to Empire Theatre, Sunderland.

EMPIRE PALACE, S. SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Bert Weston, George Newburn, James Stewart, Lieut. Insen's Band, 9 Dainty Dots, Hayes & Merritt, Henri Bekker, Pictures.

Artistes are requested to send all Bill Matter for this Hall Direct to Empire Theatre, Sunderland.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for :—

Les Valentes, Carrie Wood, Cora Corina, Hemming & Free, Hilda Mascot, Robb, Ivy, & Lynn, Albertha Flakey & Tenor, Chas. Stevens, Bioscope.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Sammy Shields, Edie Gorf, Olitzka Maddison, Edna Deno, Ethel Dunford, Hector & Loletta.

HER MAJESTY'S, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Stock Company.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Picture Entertainment, Illustrated Songs, &c.

GRAND PICTURE HOUSE, WALSALL.

Picture Entertainment.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Pantomime production "Aladdin."

These Calls are communicated by the Management for the information of Artistes WITHOUT PREJUDICE.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ARTISTES AND AGENTS.—When an artiste or act, having previously played on the Moss' Empire Tour, is re-engaged for further dates, the Contracts will be sent to the agent who negotiated the last engagement—unless notice has been received from the artiste that this is not desired. It is therefore important that should artistes change their agents, notification in writing be immediately sent to Moss' Empires, Ltd., stating through whom they desire their business transacted.

PLEASE NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS. ANY ARTISTES ABSENTING THEMSELVES WILL BE LIABLE TO HAVE THEIR CONTRACTS CANCELLED.

SPECIAL PROVISION HAS BEEN MADE AT EACH THEATRE FOR THE EXHIBITION OF LOOSE PHOTOGRAPHS. ARTISTES ARE REQUESTED TO SUPPLY THESE TO THE MANAGER ON REACHING THE THEATRE, AND THEY WILL BE RETURNED IN GOOD CONDITION AT THE END OF THE WEEK

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artistes or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. **SILENCE, A POLITE NEGATIVE.** To avoid confusion Artistes employing Agents should accredit one only at one time to do their business.

BOOKING DEPARTMENT.—This department is now under the supervision of MR. ERNEST WIGHTON.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artistes and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North should apply to the Manager, as Matinees are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. FRANK ALLEN or MR. ERNEST WIGHTON can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTES.—Artistes must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to HEAD OFFICES, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artistes will run the risk of having their engagements cancelled. IMPORTANT.—Artistes must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artistes are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artistes' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTES WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

IMPORTANT.—All sketches produced at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain. A complete copy of the script of every sketch as licensed, with a copy of the Lord Chamberlain's licence, must be sent to the Head Office twenty-one days at least before the performance of the sketch at any of the above Theatres.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the London Offices, and signed by either Mr. Frank Allen or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the London Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

THE LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS.

Providing Continuous Engagements for Artistes at the most important Variety Theatres in the London Area.

General Administrative Offices:

1, DURHAM HOUSE ST., STRAND, W.C.

Telephone Nos., Gerrard 5654 and 2619.

Calls for Monday, Feb. 10, 1913.

LONDON PAVILION.
Rehearsal at 12.
George Formby, Two Bobs, Henri de Vries & Co. in "A Night with Arsene Lupin," The Gresham Producing Sketch Co., "The Lost Sheep," Dutch Daly, Jan Rudenyi, Louie Tracey, Yamamoto and Koyoshi, Fred Hastings, Beth Tate, Four Amaranths, The Crisps, Les Andrei, Kenna Bros, and Three Cunards.

TIVOLI.
Rehearsal at 12.
Bertram Wallis and Herbert Clayton's Co., "The Musketeers," Bransby Williams, R. McDonald's Co., "The Lodgers," Ted Waite, Edith Trevor, Zoret, Gus Garrick, Three Gascoignes, Chas. Whittle, Three Westbrookes, George Ross, Onlaw Trio, and Wilson Hallett.

OXFORD.
Rehearsal at 12.
Joe Peterman's Co., Harry Tate & Co., May Henderson, Bob Karna's "Honeysuckle Co.," Mark Leslie, Jessie Berg, Ernest Roll's Co., The Ragmania, Gilbert Girard, Harry Moore, Nelson Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Manning, Achmed Ibrahim Troupe, Three Bros. Huxter, and Leslie Styles.

METROPOLITAN.
Rehearsal at 12.45.
Bransby Williams, J. L. Lasky & Co., Tameo Kakiyama, Geo. Ross, Jenny Castelle, Will Nosam, Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor, Ray Wallace, Mr. and Mrs. G. Leonard Frank Melvin, The Crisps, Rubo Roya, and Bioscope.

SOUTH LONDON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Sydney James & Co., Strolling Players, Jan Rudenyi & Co., Leivin and Pantzer, Irene Millar, Rene Ralph, Arthur Leslie, Fred Wilkinson, Bert Lytton, Deane Tribune & Lady, and Bioscope.

CHELSEA.
Rehearsal at 12.
George Formby, Five Cliftons, Jessie Millward & Co., Louie Tracey, Will Nosam, Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor, Ada Cerito, Barnard's Marionettes, Florence Esdaile, Mr. and Mrs. G. Leonard, and Bioscope.

EUSTON.
Rehearsal at 12.
George Carney's Wedgewood Classics, Fred Maxwell & Co., Chas. Bell & Co., Iris Banfield, Flora Cromer, Nelson Jackson, Frances Letty, Harry Wenburn, Susi and Fifi, Irene Millar, and Bioscope.

EAST HAM.
Rehearsal at 12.
Fred Karno's Co., John Lawson & Co., Five Jovers, Chas. Whittle, Sammy Weston, Idento Bros., Aimee Roberts, Conway and Leland, Ray Wallace, and Bioscope.

WALTHAMSTOW.
Rehearsal at 1.
J. and H. B. Jewell's "Change," Two Bobbs, Ernie Leno, Harvey Boys, Maggie May, Shirley and Ransome, Will Norrie, Sados and Assistant, Jessie Lee, and Bioscope.

TOTTENHAM.
Rehearsal at 2.
Seven Perezoffs, Geo. Barrett & Co., Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, Will Norrie, Jock Whiteford, Shirley and Ransome, Harry Taft, Two Lillies, Ethel Stephenson, and Bioscope.

EMPRESS, BRIXTON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Joe Peterman & Co., Bertram Wallis & Co, Beth Tate, Three Van Dammes, Tom Merry, Sam Spira, Jessie Albini, Lynn and Leslie, Nino and Nana, and Bioscope.

WATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1.
Louis Meyer's Co., "The Woman in the Case."

These Calls are communicated by the Managements for the information of Artistes "without prejudice."

IF YOU CONTEMPLATE AN AMERICAN TOUR, SEND THE NEWS AHEAD THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF AN ADVERTISEMENT IN

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A New Sketch.

MUMS THE WORD

By EDWARD MARRIS.

A Real West-End Farcical Comedy in Three Scenes, Slightly Broadened to suit the Music Hall Palate.

Powerful Company of 16 carefully selected artistes including FRED CAMPLIN.

Production, February 17, Palace, Maidstone.

London, February 24 and March 3.

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THE 8 RAGTIME SISTERS.

A Pianist and 7 Brilliant Soloists and Ragtime Experts, in Numbers by the New English Ragtime Composer,

MR. ALBERT W. KETELBEY.

ETHEL WARD.

"HER MADCAP MAJESTY."

No Vacancies till Autumn.

"FAKING THE FILM."

Vacant March 31, April 7, and Autumn.

Re above,

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LAWRENCE BROUGH

and his Famous Company of Comedians, and

MISS OLGA ESME,

in the Immense laughing successes

CONFUSION **CONFUSION,** ON THE BEACH
CONFUSION (Seven Artistes.) ON THE BEACH
CONFUSION Vacant— ON THE BEACH
CONFUSION **FEBRUARY 17.** ON THE BEACH
CONFUSION **ON THE** ON THE BEACH
CONFUSION **BEACH,** ON THE BEACH
CONFUSION (Seven Artistes.) ON THE BEACH
CONFUSION Vacant— ON THE BEACH
CONFUSION **FEBRUARY 17.** ON THE BEACH
CONFUSION SIR FRANCIS BURNAND'S ON THE BEACH
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CONFUSION Available once or twice nightly. ON THE BEACH
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CONFUSION Plays 1¾ to 2¼ hours. ON THE BEACH

This week—EMPIRE, EDMONTON, Next, EMPIRE, PORTSMOUTH, or Will Collins or Will Sley.

CHARLES W. & JOHN R. POOLE'S
PRODUCTION.

THE LOSS OF THE

TITANIC

(The Immortal Tale of Simple Heroism.)

VACANT - - MARCH 3 and 31.
Feb. 10, HIPPO., ROCHDALE.
Sole Agent - - HARRY BURNS.

MANAGERS PLEASE NOTE.

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WELLESLEY LYNN,

The well-known Actor, Entertainer, Humorist, and Illusionist, in a Novel and Original Entertainment of

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FIVE OTHER FIRST CLASS ARTISTES.

Satisfaction and Success Guaranteed. Three genuine and complete changes of programme. Humorous and Dramatic Sketches a special feature.

Programme will include

The Great Indian Basket Trick (with Oriental setting).
Hush! A Modern Miracle.
The Original Box Trick.
A New Spirit Seance.
The Floating Table Mystery, &c., &c.
Entirely Original Concerteds.

First-class artistes may write in. Good agent wanted.
Address Business Manager—
WELLESLEY LYNN,
119, Fielding Road,
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C.D.C.

M. H. A. R. A.

and
VARIETY ARTISTES' BENEVOLENT FUND,
18, CHARING CROSS-ROAD, W.C.

NOTICE.

The Secretary desires the addresses of the following members:—Costello and Freeman, the Mowatts, Wellman, Lydia Neilson, Montes and Welma, Ryan and Hall, Wincklers, Louis Kerno, Retford and Walsh, Hilton St. Just and Learto. Will any member knowing the addresses of the above kindly communicate with the Secretary?

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(founded by "The Terriers," 1896)
now removed to 53, ALEXANDRA-ROAD, GIPSY HILL, S.E., adjacent to Gipsy Hill Station. A delightfully situated suburban residence.

Aged and Infirm Members of the Music Hall profession are provided with a comfortable Home, which is conducted on strict business lines, whereby the maximum of benefits are bestowed at a minimum of expense. See yearly Balance-sheets and Reports.

President, MR. WALTER DE FRECE.
Chairman and Treasurer,
MR. HARRY BARNARD.

The Committee meet at 69, Kennington-road, the first and third Friday in every month at 2.30 to consider applications for admittance to the Home.
J. SPARROW, Secretary.

TELEGRAMS: OSWASTOLL, WESTRAND, LONDON. TELEPHONE: GERRARD 7545 (2 lines).

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Chairman & Managing Director, OSWALD STOLL.
Secretary and Chief Accountant, W. S. GORDON MICHIE.
ARTISTES' DEPARTMENT: Negotiations—A. D. DAVIS; Dates—LLEWELLYN JOHNS.
Address all communications to the Managing Director.

CALLS FOR FEBRUARY 10, 1913.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Irene Vanbrugh & Co. in "Rosalind," M. Theodore Kosloff in "Scheherazade," Alfred Lester, Sig. Giovanni Chiti, Cooper Mitchell, Luis Hardt, The Ketos, Andos Troupe, The Three Collegians, Chrono-Chrome, Kinemacolor.
Please note the Continental Pitch has been adopted by the Coliseum Orchestra.

THE NEW MIDDLESEX.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
"At Cripple Creek," Selection. "The Elder of the Kirk," Bioscope, Arthur Woodville, Four Wards.

THE HACKNEY EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Percy Honri in "Bohemia," Rosie Archer, Stylo Duo, Jack Shires, Marcus & Gartelle, Harry Moore, Bioscope, "Marked Money."
Artistes should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at end of week.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Zona Vevey, T. E. Dunville, Jen Latona, Lea Manti, Bioscope, Adam Tomlinson, Lydia and Amelys, The Kemptons, Tom Stuart, Wille Brothers.

THE CHISWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Happy Fanny Fields, Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson, Chris Van Bern, Eight Frolics, Solo, Tom Woottwell, Iva Voyce, Bioscope, Veronica Brady, George Leyton.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
C. Aubrey Smith and Lilian Braithwaite in "Instinct," Gaston Chevallier & Co., Leslie Bros., Veronica Brady, Gintaro, Bioscope, Williams and Parker, Betty Barclay and a Baritone.

CHATHAM EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Chanti, Dusty Rhodes, John Weil, The Four Vagabonds, Agnes Tina, Bioscope, Charles Kasrac, Graeme Goring & Co.
Artistes should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at end of week.

MANCHESTER HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
The Diving Norins, Jimmy and Pics, Karlisle Kawbawgam, Lorna and Toots Pounds, Samaroff and Sonia, Brothers Miller, Victoria Troupe, Bioscope, Ruth Maitland & Co.

THE ARDWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
The Cowboy Jupiters, Coram, The Kirbys, Maud Walsh, Bioscope, Agnes Tracey, Fred Durant, Ten Loonies.

THE LEICESTER PALACE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
"The Window of the Haunted House," Ike and Will Scott, Ludwig Amann, Richardson Taylor, Bioscope. Daisy Sloan, Six Ceylons, Mollie Wells, Mayvilles.

LEICESTER FLORAL HALL.
Pictures.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
Violet Vanbrugh as "Lady Macbeth," Lotto, Lilo and Otto, Daisy Taylor, Sisters Royce, Hayman and Franklyn, Arthur Lennard, Vandinoff, Bioscope, Cruikshank.

NOTE.—All Sketches played at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and a copy of the licence, together with script as licensed, must be sent to the Stoll Offices at least 21 days before date of performance.

Arrangements for additional Theatres include—

FULHAM EMPIRE.

The distance as the crow flies between the Finsbury Park Empire and the Wood Green Empire, measured on the Ordnance Survey Map, is 2 miles 60 yards.—Edward Stanford.

BAND PARTS REQUIRED.—14 different parts for English Orchestrations and 17 for Foreign Orchestrations. Bristol Hippodrome requires 20 parts, including 3 first violins and piano part for harp.

ADVERTISING MATTER.—Bills, Blocks, Photographs, and specimens of Pictorials really representing the Act, should be forwarded three weeks before opening. If return of photographs required, please say so.

STAGE DEPARTMENT.—Songs proposed to be sung should be submitted, and special stage requirements stated, in letters marked "Stage Department," by Artistes three weeks before opening.

COARSENESS, VULGARITY, &c., is not allowed. The Licensing Authorities forbid this and the majority of the public resent it. This intimation is only rendered necessary by a very few Artistes.

ARTISTES' SCENERY AND PROPERTIES must be fireproofed or they cannot be brought into the Theatre. This is by order of the Licensing Authorities.

BUSINESS NOTICE OF GENERAL APPLICATION.—No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the above Theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll or the Secretary, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases where goods are required at once suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within 48 hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the above Head Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

W. H. BROADHEAD & SON'S

Theatres and Hippodromes.

All Communications, Bill Matter, Lithos, Plots, &c., to Percy B. Broadhead, Hippodrome, Manchester.

Telegraphic Address: "Broadheads, Manchester,"
National Telephone: 7359 & 7360 Manchester.

Artistes wishing to negotiate engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies can be seen between the Hours of 10 and 1 (Mondays and Saturdays excepted).

CALLS FOR MONDAY, FEB. 10, 1913.

ASHTON—Empire Hippodrome.—John Tiller's Pantomime, "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves." **2.** Matinée, Saturday, **2.30.**

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE—Empress Roller Rink. — Skating, Two Sessions Daily.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE — Pavilion Theatre. — Three Braemars, Athelda, Pictures. **11.** Matinées, Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday, **2.30.**

BURY — Hippodrome. — John F. Traynor and Co., Elsie Claire, Romanys, Pictures, Tom Jersey, F. V. St. Clair. **2.**

ECCLES — Crown Theatre. — Bert Earle, Pictures, &c. **2.**

LIVERPOOL—Pavilion Theatre.—Walter Howard's Co. in "The Lifeguardsman." **2.**

MANCHESTER — Hippodrome.—John Tiller's Pantomime, "Cinderella." **2.** Matinée, Saturday, **2.30.**

MANCHESTER-Junction Theatre. Fred Granville's Co. in "At the Mercy of the Mormons." **2.**

MANCHESTER—King's Theatre.—Hinton and Zillwood's Co in "Allah's Orchard." **2.**

MANCHESTER—Metropole Theatre.—John Tiller's Pantomime, "Sinbad the Sailor." **11.** Matinée, Monday and Saturday, **2.30.**

MANCHESTER.—Osborne Theatre.—Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers Mackey and Repertoire Co. **2.**

MANCHESTER — Queen's Park Hippodrome. — Travis Green's Co. in "Queen of the Redskins." **2.**

MORECAMBE—Winter Gardens.—Pictures, Dancing, &c.

PRESTON — Hippodrome. — Dottridge and Longden's Pantomime "Robinson Crusoe." **11.** Matinée, Monday and Saturday, **2.30.**

PRESTON — New Palace. — Opened Feb. 6, 1913. Full Vaudeville company as booked. **1.**

SALFORD — Hippodrome. — Harry Foxwell's Co. in "Only a Mill Girl." **2.** Matinée, Tuesday, **2.30.**

MISS MARIE LLOYD.
EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Latest success, "My Actor Man." By Clifford Harris and James Tate.
Agent, Ernest Edelsten.

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Queen of Domestic Comedy.
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MISS VESTA VICTORIA.
NOTICE TO ARTISTES AND MANAGERS.
I hereby caution all artistes and managers that I do not permit to be given any imitations of my songs, words, or business. Anyone performing or singing same will be prosecuted for infringing the copyrights I hold.
(Signed) VESTA VICTORIA.

The Little Ray of Sunshine.
ALEXANDRA DAGMAR.
Feb. 10, Holborn Empire.
Business-Manager, G. Barclay.

EMMIE AMES.
Huge success, "Emmie's Xmas Tree," "Stars in the sky," &c.
Monday, Feb. 17,
HIPPODROME, DARLINGTON.

Booked Moss' Empires, Tivoli, Oxford, Pavilion, Syndicate, Gibbons, &c.
MISS LOUIE TRACY.
The Dapper Dandy Boy.
Feb. 3, London Pavilion.
Feb. 10, LONDON PAVILION and CHELSEA.
Tom Claxton and Co.

FLORRIE FORDE.
The World's Greatest Chorus Singer.
PANTOMIME.
Feb. 10, GRAND, BOLTON.

WINSOME
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Refined Versatile Comedienne.
Coms., The Crumbles, St. Anthony's-avenue, Eastbourne.
Pantomime 1913-14, title-rôle, Messrs. Milton Bode and J. F. Graham's "Jack Horner."

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The only Lady Dancing Act on the Wire.
Just returned, after a most successful tour of South Africa.
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Per. add., 7, Radcut-street, Kennington Park-road, S.E.; or E. De Vere, 72, Waterloo-road, S.E.

The Incomparable Character Comedy Artiste.
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Future bookings include: Moss, Stoll, and McNaughten Tours, Syndicate, and L.T.V. Halls, and principal independent halls. All booked by Mr. H. Thurston. This, Empire, Swansea. Feb. 10, HIPPO., DEVONPORT.

MISS BERTIE ADAMS
in "Autumn Manœuvres."
Feb. 10, STRATFORD.
Simply delightful as June.—"Stage," Jan. 6, 1913.
Coms., Blackmore's Agency.

MISS IRENE DILLON,
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Coms., Geo. Barclay, Brixton Hill.

MISS DOLLY HARMER.
At liberty Feb. 24.
Vaudeville or Musical Comedy.
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MISS JEN LATONA.
Feb. 10,
EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
'Phone, Brixton 1812.
Will Collins, Business Manager.

FREGOLIA.
The Woman who is Never Herself.
Feb. 10, HIPPO., SOUTHAMPTON.

Simply
MARJORIE DEAN,
Colonial Lady Ventriloquist.
Great receptions last week at Hammersmith and Putney.
This week, Empire, Islington.
Next week (Feb. 10), PALACE, CAMBERWELL, in her Original Scena,
"THE GIPSY SHOWGIRL."
My own property and legally protected.
Ventriloquism and Dancing.
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LA MORETTE,
In her Beautiful Electrical Poses.
See her startling dance, with graceful and fascinating aerial flights, the whole producing a vision of indescribable beauty. Managers wanting a sure attraction write my agents, M. and H. Hyman, 62, Alexandra-road, Birmingham, or The International Agency, Northumberland-st., Manchester.

Big Success of
MARGARET DORIS
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This, Feb. 3, Pal., Carlisle. Next Feb. 10, GRAND T., BYKER, NEWCASTLE. All coms., Harry Burns, Walter House, Strand, London.

THE RAWSONS
(MAGGIE and JACK),
Entertainers.
Feb. 10,
PALACE, HULL.

MISS HARRIETT VERNON.
New Song-Scena, "The Half-Way House."
ON TOUR.
All communications to be addressed to my Business Manager, Mr. Tom Claxton, 2, Gordon-mansions, Frances-st., Tottenham Court-road, W.C.

MISS VESTA TILLEY.
ON TOUR.
Address, Walter de Frece, 39, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

LELIA ROZE.
Permanent address, Avonmouth House, Mudeford, Hants.
Business coms., above address.

An Artiste to her finger tips.
MISS DAISY DORMER.
Enormous Success as GOODY TWO SHOES.
GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

"Meet me, Jennie," &c.
A Dutch Rag-time Lullaby.
"My Irish Maggie."
Each a huge success.
Written and composed by Minnie Fenton.
Published by Bert Feldman and Co.
Sung by
The "star" that never fails to shine,
GERTIE GITANA.
All records broken last week, Empire, Birmingham.
This week packed houses, Ardwick, Manchester.
Feb. 10, OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Business-Manager, Jim O'Connor.

The Artiste who pleases every audience.
MABEL SINCLAIR.
Britain's Premier Lady Ventriloquist.
Feb. 10, EMPIRE, LIVERPOOL.

Proprietor of the Original Farcical Ventriloquial Interlude, "FLIRTING." Fully booked, 1913, 14, and 15. Manager, Arthur Palling.
MISS HETTY KING.
14a, Clarendon-court, Maida Vale, W.
Manager, Ernest Lotinga.

MISS RENE RALPH.
Concludes to-night. Enormous success as Jack, Principal Boy, Elephant and Castle Theatre.
Re-engaged by Mr. W. Croke, 1913-14, and '15.
Monday next, SOUTH LONDON PALACE.
Feb. 17, Palace, Camberwell.
All new songs and costumes.
Sole Agents, Fred. and Horace Reeves.

DAINTY
MAUDIE FRANCIS
as GOODY TWO SHOES.
Enormous Success.
Next week, PALACE, BOW.

LITTLE BETTY RENEE.
The delightful FAIRY in "Twinkle Star," PRINCE OF WALES, BIRMINGHAM.
Coms., T. Brown, Prince of Wales Theatre.

MISS LOUISA PEACH, supported by CHARLES LIND VIVIAN, in Duologue, "IN A CORNER."
Feb. 10, HIPPO., EASTBOURNE. Feb. 17, Hip., Dover. Vacant Feb. 24, and other dates.

TOM JONES presents
Frank Kingsley and Co.,
in the Novel Music Hall Comedy, entitled,
"MISTER WOMAN."
Big laughing success at Olympia, Shoreditch, Jan. 27, 1913.
Business Managers, Will Collins and Co.

CHERRY HARDY
concludes very successful engagement on the Variety Theatres Controlling Circuit as Principal Boy with J. F. Elliston's "Puss in Boots." 1910-11, Principal Girl, Grand, Hull; 1911-12, Principal Boy, Royal, York; 1912-13, Principal Boy, Palace, Manchester.

MANCHESTER.
"Manchester Guardian," Dec. 24:—. . . . and meanwhile as many songs as possible should be given to Miss Cherry Hardy, the principal boy, who has quite a good notion of how these things are done nowadays.
"Manchester Dispatch," Dec. 24:—As principal boy, Miss Cherry Hardy was spontaneous in her liveliness, her dancing being especially fine.
"Oldham Standard." Dec. 31:—Colin, the Miller's youngest son, Miss Cherry Hardy, is very pleasing in all her work. She has a charmingly sweet voice, which she very effectively utilises. She is full of activity, and very smart in what we may call her pirouette dance.

LEEDS.
"Yorkshire Post," Jan. 7:—Miss Cherry Hardy is an excellent principal boy, sprightly in all her movements, pleasant in her ways, dancing daintily and singing agreeably. The wonder is Miss Hardy has not been snapped up for a leading pantomime; probably she will be another year.
"Leeds Mercury," Jan. 7:—Miss Cherry Hardy, as Colin, makes as smart a principal boy as one could wish to see. She has a sweet voice and dances enchantingly.
"Yorkshire Evening Post," Jan. 7:—Miss Cherry Hardy, the principal boy, did not overdo anything, and her success was won by art.

LIVERPOOL.
"Liverpool Courier," Jan. 14:—Cherry Hardy, as Colin, the Miller's youngest son, makes a dashing and dainty principal boy, her dancing and singing, especially the lullaby song in the Ogre's Castle, being loudly acclaimed. "Liverpool Evening Express," Jan. 14:—As Colin, the Miller's youngest son, Miss Cherry Hardy sang and danced exquisitely.

SHEFFIELD.
"Sheffield Daily Telegraph," Jan. 21:—Miss Cherry Hardy is one of the most winsome principal boys. She enters into the gaiety of the play with a freshness and vivacity which quickly establish her as a firm favourite. She sings with delicacy and charm and dances with supreme daintiness.

NEWCASTLE.
"Newcastle Chronicle," Jan. 28:—Miss Cherry Hardy, the principal boy, is a young lady gradually forging her way ahead on the stage, and in pantomime work she has much natural charm to recommend her. "Newcastle Evening Mail," Jan. 28:—Among all the Christmas pantomimes it would be hard to find a principal boy to excel in dainty vivacity and general scrumptiousness Miss Cherry Hardy, of the "Puss in Boots" company at the Pavilion this week. She acts as well as she dances, and dances even better than she sings.
Perm add., 39, Comeragh-road, West Kensington.

MARIE LOFTUS.
"The Wee Wandered Wane."
Feb. 10, Pavilion, Glasgow.

PRINCIPAL BOY, "ALADDIN." GREAT SUCCESS.
MISS LILLIE LANGTRY
is the life and soul of the pantomime, and is to a large extent responsible for its great success. Aladdin was prime favourite.—Vide Press.

LIL MISS HAWTHORNE.
NEW YORK.
Address, c/o "Variety," New York.

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"The" Dancer.
In Australia.
Harry Rickards' Tour.
All coms., Harry Bawn, 18, Adam-street, W.C.

MISS DAISY JAMES.
Everybody's Favourite.
PRINCIPAL BOY, LYCEUM THEATRE, LONDON.
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Success! Success!! Success!!!
MINNIE FENTON
(and Co.), in an Original Scotch Scena.
This week, Top of the Bill, Hippo., Lowestoft.
Specially re-engaged by Mr. George Zalva.
A few immediate vacancies.
Agents, George Barclay and Co.

VIOLET LORAINE.
Panto. with Mr. J. C. Williamson, as Principal Boy in "Puss in Boots."
Address all communications, Philip Suckling, at Somers and Masters, 1, Tottenham Court-road, W.

The Real
ANNA EVA FAY.
Moss Tour.
Stoll Tour.
Will Collins and Co., Panton-street, London.

Our Comedy Juggling Act stands alone.
FRANCIS and ALFRED.
Feb. 10, OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Exclusive Agent, E. de Vere, 72, Waterloo-rd., S.E.

EDWARD LAURI and MAY BEATTY.
Pantomime, KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

MARTIN ADESON and CLARA BERNARD.
"DR. MAUD'S FIRST PATIENT."
"A DOUBTFUL POLICY."
Unexpectedly vacant Feb. 24.
Coms., 40, Sandmere-road, Clapham, S.W.

JOHN TERRY and MABEL LAMBERT.
Famous International Character Impersonators.
Just completed a circle of the entire World with enormous success.
Letters, c/o "The Era."
Represented by H. W. Wieland.

DAN LENO, JUN.,
will pay best price for Good Funny Songs, Patter or otherwise.
"Chestnut merchants" save stamps.
Permanent address,
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F. SCHWARZ COMPANY,
in the Original Sketch,
"THE BROKEN MIRROR."
Permanent address,
C/o H. B. Marinelli, Ltd., 18, Charing Cross-road, London, W.C.

E. D. NICHOLLS.
A comedian with new methods, and a unique personality.—The "People," Sept. 8, 1912.
"That Dreadful Detective," "Dare-Devil Dripping."
"Jerry the Tramp," &c.
Mr. Tom Claxton.

CARTER LIVESEY,
In New Numbers.
"I've got a soft place in mi 'ead," by Geo. Arthurs.
Enormous Success.
"The only way—out" (a whiff of Yorkshire), by John le Breton. Music by Geo. Arthurs.
"An amateur anarchist," by Geo. Arthurs.
Enormous Success.
Agents, E. Edelsten; or Tom Shaw and Co.

"Give me the girl in the plain cotton dress," by Joe Tabrar. Published by Francis, Day, and Hunter. "We don't care a button if we walk home." Paul Pelham and F. P. Long. Published by Lawrence Wright. Watch this song, and don't forget that
WALTER STOCKWELL
Comedian. The man with the voice that can be heard in every part of the hall.—Press.
WALTER STOCKWELL is in Town again.
Big Success at EMPIRE, CAMBERWELL.
Proprietors and Managers note that Walter Stockwell is in Town again, and a sure success any and everywhere.

COOPER MITCHELL,
of the London Coliseum, &c.
Song and story at the piano.
'Phone, Chiswick, 1112, and
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MR. ARTHUR LENNARD.
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Telephone, 1056 Streatham.
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MOSS TOUR.
"VERI 'OT TATERPLANE."

WILKIE BARD.
IN TOWN.

NEIL KENYON.
"THE BILLPOSTER."

The Caran D'Ache of the Variety Stage. (Vide Stoll.)
GEO. MOZART.
Business-Manager, Harry Day.

MR. ARTHUR ROBERTS.
And Repertoire Company.
Feb. 10, KING'S THEATRE, KILMARNOCK.
Coms., 3627 Padd., or Geo. Barclay.

MR. EDWARD H. LUCAS and Daughter EDNA in Scenes from Dickens.
Address, c/o "The Era" Office.

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Best price for Funny Songs, Patter, &c.
MR. MARK SHERIDAN.
PALACE, BLACKPOOL.
JACK SHERIDAN, NEW THEATRE, CARDIFF.
No Vacancies. Peel's, Ltd.

"The baby-show," By Castling and Murphy.
"British bulldogs," By Henry Castling.
"He's a pro.," By James Hargreaves.
HARRY WELDON.
IDLE JACK in "Dick Whittington" Panto., OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
'Phone: 596 Putney.
Coms., Eccentric Club, W.
Representative, Ernest Edelsten.

CHARLES CARDOW,
Latest Production,
"THE BURGLARS."
A Novel Title—No.
An Original Item—Yes.
Concluding pantomime, Palace, Maidstone.
Managers watch this act.

G. H. ELLIOTT.
The Original Chocolate-Coloured Coon.
Feb. 10, Holiday.
Enormous success of his two new songs, "Hullo! Susie Green," and "I've had my fortune told."
Agent, Tom Pacey.

MENDEL.
Marvellous Blind Pianist and Lightning Composer.
NEW T. and HIPPO., NORTHAMPTON.
Agents, Tom Shaw and Co., and D. Bliss.

THE GENIAL IRISHMAN.
HORACE WHEATLEY.
Continued success of "Old knee breeches," "D-o-u-g-h-e-r-t-y," "Mac, my old pal, Mac," "When I met you at the fair in Tipperary."
Please remember that I am the original singer of the above songs.
For dates, address, Tom Shaw's Agency, London; or Horace Wheatley, c/o "The Era."

ALBERT LE FRE.
PANTOMIME.
THEATRE ROYAL, MANCHESTER.
Sole Representative, Peel's, Ltd.

HENRY CRAWFORD.
Napoleon of Mnemonics.
From the PALACE THEATRE, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

The Rag-Time Dame.
MR. HARRY CONLIN.
Mother Hubbard,
GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Agent, Mr. Geo. Foster.

JACK HURST.
The Natural Animal Impersonator.
Enormous Success as the Cat, "Whittington" Panto., Prince's Theatre, Bristol.
Open for Pantomime 1913 and 1914.
The Natural Animal Impersonator.
Great Success, Hanley, Birkenhead, Tunbridge, Chatham, and Gibbons' Halls.

MR. F. V. ST. CLAIR,
in the Great Song, "Mister Lloyd."
PAVILION, LIVERPOOL.

THE CAT KING.
LEONI CLARKE'S
Royal Comedy Animal Act.
One long laugh from start to finish.
Always something new.
Vacant, Feb. 24, March 17, 24.
Share or certainty.
This week, Theatre Royal, Guildford, Surrey.
Next week,
GRAND THEATRE, GILLINGHAM, KENT.
Notice to Proprietors and Managers.—When making offers for sharing terms please state size of stage, seating capacity, and prices of admission.

"WHAT'S IN A NAME?"
"WHAT'S IN A NAME?"
"WHAT'S IN A NAME?"
Written by Wal Pink.
Music by J. S. Baker.
Another Screaming Success.
JOE ELVIN.
Feb. 10,
PALLADIUM,
PALACE, HAMMERSMITH.
Coms., Harry Masters.

MR. BRANSBY WILLIAMS.
THE TIVOLI.
Business Manager, Ernest Edelsten.

LITTLE TICH.
THE PALLADIUM.

MR. WILL EVANS.
Xmas Season.
POMPONS, in "Sleeping Beauty."
THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY-LANE.
Business Manager, Mr. Harry Day (Day's Agency).

"The Rag-time Butcher."
T. E. DUNVILLE.
GIBBONS TOUR.
Manager, Harry Masters, 1, Tottenham Court-road.

MR. GEORGE LASHWOOD.
EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
New Scena,
"THE PUNCH AND JUDY MAN."
By Weston and Barnes.
Scene and Props. by Linton.

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EMPIRE, CHISWICK.
Stoll Tour.

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"The Rag-time Curate," by Worton David and Bert Lee.
Address, c/o "The Era."

ARTHUR AISTON.
On Tour.
London, March 3.

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The ever-welcome Pantomime Comedian and Dancer in all new business, songs, and gags.
The Success of the Year,
"SKIN AND BONE."
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"SKIN AND BONE."
Everybody is singing the chorus.
Written by Uncle Willie, the reliable one.
Copies £2 2s. for Pantomime only.
Pantomime Settled.

Proprietors, Managers, kindly note the following from the "Southport Guardian," Jan. 29, 1913:—
EMPIRE.
This week Mr. W. Simpson Cross has added yet another leaf to his already profuse wreath of laurels earned, if not altogether in the "struggle for stars," at any rate in the arduous task of providing acceptable turns for the entertainment of his numerous patrons at the Empire. He has been successful in securing for the top of the bill that eminently clever comedian W. J. Churchill, whose undoubted talent has made him a favourite in all parts of the country. One of the most commendable features about his performance is that it is free from any taint of double entendre. "Fun without a suspicion of vulgarity" might well be emblazoned upon his stage banner, and this is rather a feature nowadays. W. J. Churchill is so ready of wit and resourcefulness of dialogue that he needs none of the meretricious trash which some artistes palm off as humour to "fill in" his mirth-making programme. He is never at a loss for a jest; one sample of humour treads close upon the heels of its predecessor, and what with his patter and his songs, he achieves a well-deserved success. His efforts are greeted with unrestrained laughter, and he is indeed the principal comedy asset of the entertainment.
All letters to BILLY (W. J.) CHURCHILL, HIPPODROME, TONYPANDY.

FRED BARNES,
The New Star,
in his songs,
"Fiddle-dee-dee,"
"Rag-time violin,"
"Girl in Havana," &c.
Panto.
Mr. Wyndham's Productions,
THEATRE ROYAL, GLASGOW.

JOCK McKAY.
The Special Scotch Humorist.
EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.
Coms., Fred and Horace Reeves.

ARTHUR WOODVILLE.
LONDON COLISEUM.
Agents, G. and F. Peel.

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